FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

From and after this date, no name of a new subscriber will be entered without payment in advance, nor will the paper be sent to such subscribers for a longer time than is paid for.

Such of our old subscribers as desire to take the paper on this system will please notify us, when making remittances.

Jan'y 1, 1863.

A Daring Adventure.—A party of brave Southern boys went into Memphis, not long since, and during their peregrinations, got on board two steamboats lying at the landing of the city, captured and tied the guard, raised steam, worked the boats to the other side of the river, and there burned them, to the great astonishment of Memphis Federaldom.

DEATHS OF SOLDIERS.—At Montgomery Springs Va., on 18th inst., of small pox, F. B. Jones, of Cumberland, Capt. McLauchlin's Co., 38th Reg't.

In the 2d N. C. Hospital, at Petersburg, on 26th Sept., Serg't William A. Moffitt, of Co. C, Artillery, 10th Reg't N. C. Volunteers. We deplore the loss of our true and faithful soldier boys who die in the service of their country.

At Fort Fisher, very suddenly, on the 1st inst., Mr. PHILIP R. HERRINGTON, of Capt. Tait's (Bladen Artillery Guards,) Co. The deceased was a citizen of Bladen Co. He was an exemplarary member of the Presbyterian Church, was a member of the Masonic Fraternity. He was a noble soldier, a good citizen, a loving husband, a pious and devoted christian; loved by all who knew him. He leaves a wife and many relatives to mourn after him. R. D. M.

At Smithville, on the 20th inst, J. M. ARMSTRONG of Sampson member of the Signal Corps, (Capt. Alexander) formerly member of Capt. Devane's Co., 61st Reg't N. C. T. R. D. M.

Near Richmond, 5th June last, Junius H. Dyer, of the 23d Reg't, aged 23.

In one of the hospitals in Petersburg, Dec'r 16th, Mr Alfonso F Shuford, of 7th Reg't, in the 38d year of his age, of Rowan county.

In the Winder Hospital, Richmond, 4th January, of Typhoid Fever, William L. Terry of Orange county, in the 25th year of his age, a member of company G, 27th regiment.

At his father's residence in Columbus county, Feb'y 14th, of typhoid fever, private Thomas C Maultsby, of Co H, 51st Reg't, aged 19.

In Richmond, 15th ult, John L Phillips, of Co E, 48th Reg't, of Union county.

In Murfresboro', Tenn, 1st Jan'y, of a wound received in the battle at that place the day previous, Wm Gaston Barringer, son of Paul P Barringer, Esq. of Mississippi, and nephew of Hon D M Barringer and Rufus and V C Barringer of North Carolina, aged 18.

Killed in the battle of Fredericksburg, Dec'r 13, Orderly Sergeant John A Long, of Co I, 48th Reg't.

MARRIED,

In Harnett county, on the 22d inst., by Rev. D. D. McBryde, DUNCAN DARROCH to Miss ISABELLA OCHILTREE. [Presbyterian please copy.]

In Robeson county, on the 5th inst., by R. D. McNeill, Esq., Mr. PETER MONROE to Miss FEREBY CURRIE, all of that county. [Presbyterian copy.]

DIED,

In Bladen county, from vaccination, Mr. THEOPHILUS TATOM, aged 65, leaving a wife and 10 children.

On 26th Dec'r, of small pox, AMOS M. STACK, of Union county. Thirteen members of his family have since had the disease, but all recovered.

On the 14th instant, after a brief illness, in Richmond county, Miss ELIZA CATHARINE, daughter of James Patterson, aged 28.

In Richmond county, on 1st Feb., of typhoid pneumonia, WILLIAM O. GIBSON, aged 68.

In Richmond county, on the 22d ult., after a painful illness of eight days, LILLIE, daughter of Homer and Rebecca Legrand, aged 9 years and 5 months.

Of Dyptheria, at the residence of her father in Chatham county, ELIZA RUTH, youngest child of T. B. and Nancy S. Harris, aged 5 years and 5 months.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Died, suddenly, of disease of the heart, in Chatham county, N. C., on the 26th of Jan'y last, Mr. JAHAZA ATWATER, aged 58 years.

Brother Atwater was for many years a Class Leader in the Methodist Episcopal Church, which position he filled with honor to himself and great usefulness to the Church; and in his death the Church has lost one of its most useful, devoted and pious members. No man possessed a warmer heart, or more sympathetic nature, than our departed brother. His estimable qualities as a man were best exhibited in private and social intercourse. Agreeable in manners, frank and genial, he was always a welcome companion. To those who have visited his house, and seen him surrounded with all the endearing charities of domestic life, and who have partaken of his hospitalities so freely bestowed, nothing need be said as to his domestic virtues. None possessed them in a more eminent degree. He was a fond father, a kind and generous master. The aching void occasioned in that once happy home, by his sudden death, cannot be estimated by our own loss; our own grief would be silent before the anguish felt there. From his lovely home—from the class of which he was a leader, and from all the haunts of men, he is gone forever. The places which knew him so well now know him no more. Never more on earth will we be permitted to receive the grasp of that cordial hand. In heaven alone will we be permitted to renew our society with loved and departed ones.

Brother Atwater leaves two promising sons and a lovely daughter, and numerous friends to mourn his irreparable loss, and the writer of this can deeply sympathise with his immediate friends in their sad bereavement, as he too, keenly feels the sorrow caused by the lamented death of this esteemed friend. He sleeps his last sleep. No more will his once cheerful voice be heard in the sad home circle, made vacant and desolate because he is not there; that voice is still in death, that noble and generous heart that ever throbbed with pure emotions, lies silent in the cold damp tomb. He lived the life of the righteous, and died the death of the same. Farewell, brother Atwater, we miss thee much, but feel assured that thou hast gone to a happier and brighter world than this, there to unite with your dear departed wife and little daughter, and all the redeemed, in singing praises to the most high God,

"Brother, the pains of death are past,
Labor and sorrow cease;
And, life's long warfare closed at last,
Thy soul is found in peace."

Richmond and Southern Ch'n Advocates please copy.

WANTED,

A YOUNG LADY who is fully competent to teach Music and the English Branches, to take charge of a small school near Fayetteville. Good references required. Address the Subscriber at Fayetteville.

THOMAS McDANIEL.

Feb'y 21, 1863. 5*3t

Cotton Yarns and Sheetings

WILL be given in exchange for CORN and PEAS at the *Beaver Creek Factory;* and will, if desired by the purchasers, sell for *CASH* One-Half as much more yarns and sheetings as the corn and peas amount to.

J. H. HALL, Ag't.

Feb'y 18. 5*6t

OBSERVER.
FAYETTEVILLE.

THURSDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 26, 1863.

THE FINANCIAL POLICY OF THE STATE.—The following is the communication alluded to in our last, for which we had not then room, coming, as it did, after the pre-occupation of our columns. We need not say that it shows that this subject, like most others, has two sides to it, and that the discussion is presented on both with much ability:—

Editors of the Fayetteville Observer: Judge Pearson in his article in your paper of the 12th inst., objects to the issue of State Treasury notes, fundable in 6 per cent. State bonds or redeemable in 20 years, on two grounds, which I will state from memory, not having the article before me, and not having time nor you space for a critical and elaborate reply. One ground is, that the issue of such notes by a State is in violation of the supposed provision in the Constitution of the Confederate States, prohibiting a State to "emit bills of credit." This provision of the Constitution of the U. S., is omitted in the Constitution of the Confederate States, evidently with the intent that the power should be exercised by the States. It was manifest, at the adoption of this instrument, that the Confederacy and line the States, during the continuance of the War, would have to rely on Treasury notes as money;—that a given amount would be required; and that the probability of its redemption would be greater and its credit consequently better, if each State was responsible for a part and the Confederacy for a part, than if the whole were issued by the Confederacy. The argument based on the unconstitutionality of the measure, consequently rests on a mistake, and falls.

His other position is that the issue of these notes by the States will inflate, and consequently depreciate, our already redundant currency issued by the Confederacy; and if the State issue a preferred currency, it discredits the Confederate currency.

It is now an ascertained fact, that the State Treasury notes, redeemable in 1866, are preferred to the Confederate currency; and that our new 6 per cent. bonds will not bring, at present, more than 5 per cent. premium. It is clear then that the *State* will save 13 per cent. by the issue of these notes, instead of the sale of her bonds. But the Judge thinks this a narrow—or rather not a sufficiently "comprehensive" view of the subject.

The State, in her patriotic desire to see that her troops are properly clad and in her anxiety to furnish her full quota of soldiers, has undertaken out of her own Treasury to clothe her troops, and to pay a bounty of $50 to each of them. The former is expected to be repaid; the latter is not. The other expenditures of the State are comparatively inconsiderable, excepting the appropriations by the General Assembly to buy provisions for the use of the indigent—and the $1,000,000 given to the Counties to aid them in providing for the indigent families of soldiers in the field. In short, the enormous expenditures of the State Treasury all grow out of the co-operation of the State with the Confederacy in prosecuting the War. Upon the Legislature rested the responsibility of providing not only for these heavy expenditures, but also for paying a floating debt of two and a half millions to the Banks. There seems to me something of the "comprehensive" in saving 18 per cent. to the Treasury; and at the same time buying *more* clothing and provisions with our currency, than we could get with Confederate currency. Is it perfectly clear that the redundancy of paper currency will be increased by this issue by the State? A certain amount of money is required to buy clothing, munitions of war, &c. If the State does not furnish the money, the Confederacy must. If we can get *more* supplies with our notes, that we can with Confederate notes, will not the circulation be *less* by this difference?

My views seem to the Judge not sufficiently comprehensive:—his seem to me to be hardly specious.

TO STRAGGLING SOLDIERS AND THEIR FRIENDS.—We would urge one more last appeal to those whom honor and patriotism and their own and their children's good name call to the post of duty and of safety. Let them hasten to the side of their gallant companions who are and have been breasting the storm of fanaticism and earning for themselves an undying fame—a fame with which the civilized world is already ringing. Let the friends of such stragglers, whether they be deserters or conscripts or merely loiterers, insist upon their immediate return, before the 5th of March. They will be received with joy by every good soldier at his post, as the son in Scripture who said to his father "I will not," but afterwards repented and did his bidding. Remember that those who may still skulk and prowl in the woods beyond the 5th of March, will forfeit their lives to the just and necessary laws of their country, and will leave an inheritance of shame to their wives and children and parents. By taking their places in the army, at the worst they can but sacrifice their lives, whilst the inheritance of their children would be one of glory—they will have died in the noblest cause that ever enlisted a patriot's soul—and will have secured for their surviving families the respect of generations yet unborn and the more substantial "material aid" which grateful nations give to those who suffer for the common good.

This appeal has been suggested by a private letter from one of our highest and most distinguished officers, who left the quiet pursuits of private life and freely devoted his all to the cause. As his opportunities are far better than ours to judge what is the prospect ahead, and as his views coincide entirely with our own, we hope he will pardon us for making an extract from his letter:

"The present is the crisis in our affairs. I am satisfied that the brutal foe is demoralized and discouraged. If thwarted everywhere for the next sixty days, he cannot recruit his legions in May. But if he gain a single substantial success, he will have no difficulty in recruiting his thinned ranks and inspiriting his disheartened troops. Should any one of our four great ports be lost, or should the Mississippi be opened, the war will last throughout Lincoln's administration. If our laggards and deserters could only be got in the ranks, we would soon have a glorious peace. I hope that your voice will be lifted once more in this noble way, and that you may be able to stir up the hearts of our people. I feel very deeply upon this subject, and am convinced that an earnest, hearty effort by our people for sixty days would result in our complete and glorious triumph."

Listen to these words of wisdom and of patriotism! Sixty days of manly effort may avert two years of horrid war! Shall they not be given? Let laggards follow the stream that has been regularly setting towards the army since the issuing of Gov. Vance's eloquent appeal, and all will be well.

GOOD EFFECTS OF GOV. VANCE'S PROCLAMATION.—A member of the 61st Reg't, writing to the Wilmington Journal from Charleston, says,—

"As you are aware, our regiment is under the command of Col. Radcliffe. It is now some two hundred stronger than it was some months past. Governor Vance's proclamation has brought in a great many stragglers, deserters or other absentees that never would have otherwise come in. Governor Vance's proclamation has worked remarkably well."

THE LOWEST STAGE OF HUMAN DEGRADATION AND DISHONOR.—One at least of the yankee papers has a just appreciation of the infamy of the law to enlist 150,000 negroes into Lincoln's army. Hear the Boston Courier:—

"We say the project is a degrading one—which will make our latest posterity blush for us—that we had so little manhood in us as to call to our aid on the field of mortal strife, for the defence of "the land of the free and the home of the brave," a race of inferiors to do for us what we, confessedly, by adopting such a measure, have not the spirit, energy and wisdom to effect for ourselves. Truly, the man who concocted and voted for such a bill can only be taken to have reached the lowest stage of human degradation and dishonor."

☞ We have a number of communications, some of which we have not had time even to examine. We hope to publish such of them as we think will interest our readers. But the writers must exercise patience.

THE LATE TREASURER.—There are two reasons why we think it expedient to recur again to the subject presented in the Report of the Special Legislative Committee. 1st. The State would have made upwards of $300,000 by selling its bonds or notes to the highest bidder, instead of giving them at par to brokers and others who were thus enabled to make the $300,000 which the State ought to have had. And 2d. That a prodigious howl has been raised by a *party*, because the Legislature chose to exercise its undoubted right to prefer another than Mr. Courts to manage the State finances. They have magnified Mr. Courts into a second Necker, and would persuade the people that his financial skill and ability was so great that it is next to ruin to be without him. If these persons of that *party* really believe this, it argues but little for their own acumen. Mr. Courts is a respectable gentleman, of ordinary capacity and undoubted integrity, who was fortunate in having a gentleman of real ability as his adviser, and a chief clerk of great skill to perform his office duties.

We propose now to show, after taking the opinion of a gentleman "learned in the law," so as to be sure that we commit no mistake about it, *that Mr. Courts had clear legal power to sell* THE 8 PER CENT TREASURY NOTES. Messrs. Moore and Bragg have confined their opinions to *the bonds*. The direct question upon *the notes* was not put to them, perhaps; but we may say that apparently their opinion is the other way—as Mr. Moore mistakes the meaning of the clause upon which, partly, we rely, and as Gov. Bragg is evidently committed as general legal expurgator of the late Treasurer. Neither, however, makes the point in behalf of his client.

It is important to know in what way the Convention designed that *the notes* should be issued; for the provisions of the Ordinances upon issuing *the bonds* evidently take for granted that the notes are out and in circulation. The bonds were to be issued only in exchange for the notes.

The Ordinance of 1st Dec. 1861 is the only one that has express directions in detail for issuing these notes—the additional emissions of February and May 1862 are *expressly* referred, for details of issue, to the first named Ordinance. Those details are in section 5th of Ordinance of 1st Dec. '61, which ordains that these notes may be paid to public creditors, soldiers, holders of coupons, &c., and that the Treasurer may borrow money upon them, "Provided, that upon such loans interest shall not be charged or paid at a greater rate than six per cent per annum; and further, that no Treasury notes shall be pledged, nor shall they be sold or issued for any purpose for less than the amount due on the same, including interest accrued thereon if any." In Mr. Moore's opinion this proviso is quoted, and he alludes to it afterwards thus: "It will be seen by section 5th of Ordinance 16 (Dec. 1, '61,) that the Convention contemplated that it might be necessary to borrow money upon a pledge of Treasury notes, and it plainly informs the lender that the pledge shall not be sold to satisfy the loan at less than par." Mr. Moore is beyond question in error when he supposes the Convention in the above language which prohibits a sale below par, to be addressing some hypothetical *lender*. The words are spoken to the Treasurer: The Treasurer shall not *pledge*, shall not *sell*, shall not *issue*, for any purpose for less than par. The matter is too clear to require elaboration. Mr. Moore's mistake is referable to that class of inadvertencies which the ancients knew as The noddings of Homer. The proviso implies a command from the Convention to Mr. Courts to sell these notes (if creditors would not always take them) whenever he could get par or above par for them.

We do not know how it has come to be taken for granted that these Treasury notes might not have been sold. Perhaps the use of the word "issue," and the impression of their forming *a currency*, may have connected this operation with the private, banks of issue. But the word *issue* has *a Treasury meaning* in North Carolina, with which Mr. Courts was perfectly familiar, that includes other methods of disposal, *but rather implies a sale*. To a Treasurer who had been some 12 or 14 years in office, the command by the State to *issue* her paper would naturally suggest *a sale*—and he would seek for indications of a contrary intention in the context or in the nature of the thing to be issued, before he would be sure that it was not his duty to sell in any event. A little excursion into the region of railroad and river navigation charters in which the State has taken stock will prove this.

In the N. C. railroad charter, (1848 ch. 82,) the 38th section provides for an *issue* of certificates of debt. In section 40 it is "provided that in no event shall any of the said certificates be *sold* for less than their par value." In section 49 other bonds are to be *issued*, and nothing is said further as to the manner. It might be instructive as well as pertinent to the present inquiry to find how these were issued, and by what incumbent of the Treasury! Were they *sold*, and by Mr. Courts?

In the act of 1854, ch. 5, (C. F. & D. B.,) the 1st section provides for an *issue* of bonds; as does also ch. 228 (Private Laws) of same year, sec. 1, (Western N. C. Railroad;) that they were to be *sold* is mentioned only indirectly. Both of these last mentioned acts have provisos similar to that of the act of 1848 ch. 82. Other enactments similar in form to these may no doubt be found, i. e., enactments in which in the directory part of the act the word *issue* is found alone, and *selling*, as a method of issuing, referred to only incidentally—in a proviso or otherwise.

The Convention, then, in reference to these notes, used substantially the same language that Mr. Courts had relied upon every year in the last twelve as empowering him to sell State bonds. Is there anything in the context, or in the subject-matter of the ordinance, to justify him in saying, as he does now, that he had *no power* to sell these notes? There is nothing, so far as we can find, in the context: *that* is occupied with details upon other matters. As to the subject-matter, all we can find is that in both cases it is *paper* issued by the State for debts that she could not pay by ordinary taxation—in the one case *bonds*, in the other *notes*. There is nothing in the technical difference between a note and a bond to make the one more an object of sale than the other. Without consideration, some people might think there was some substantial difference because the one was intended for *currency* and the other not; but Gov. Bragg maintains in his *Opinion*, that it was the least of the views of the State to make a currency by issuing these notes: that the State adopted these small sums, and less formal instruments, merely for the present distress, with the view of getting from a multitude of small dealers, that credit which the war debarred her from seeking upon any large scale in her former resorts; and that it was anticipated that afterwards the numerous little debts might be consolidated into bonds. If Gov. B. be correct, there is no difference between the subject-matter of these Ordinances and that of the acts referred to above. Mr. Moore seems to believe that the State designed a *currency*, and that it would have been "a little business" in the State to buy up depreciated paper with her own notes, and pay off her creditors with the article purchased. There is a difference between the learned gentlemen upon this point, which is "a little business" that we leave them to settle, advising Mr. Courts, by the way, to give the next Counsel whose services he employs the benefit of a consultation. People may well differ about its being "a little business." But whether little or large, it is the usual way in which the State provides the means to pay such debts as her ordinary revenue will not meet. We have seen her, any time this dozen years, selling her bonds at the North and perhaps in England for more than par so that she might pay railroad contractors and other creditors with the proceeds, and we have never heard it charged as a little thing—indeed Mr. Courts always plumed himself upon it as a very good and creditable thing. What was that but an earnest endeavor to get paper worth less than her own to pay over to her creditors? And here her creditors could not complain, for they were a privileged class; they might have it at par. But if they would not take *it*, money that they would take was to be raised by (amongst other plans) the sale of these notes for what they would bring. We may add, that, "little" as Mr. Moore thinks is the "business" of which he speaks, no doubt he considers it a business far smaller for the State to have *given away* these notes for that depreciated paper, to be used upon her creditors.

But some will ask if it would not be an extraordinary thing for the State to issue a currency by sale?

We reply, not more extraordinary than for her to issue a currency at all! It is the first occurrence since Revolutionary times, and there is no man living whom it should surprise to hear that the State proposed to issue a temporary currency by sale of it. We go further and think that in the present crisis the State ought to pay for what she buys in the universal currency of the day—that which other people buy with—that which, depreciated or not, fixes the market price of those things in which the State desires to deal. We think it was wise in her to provide for the chance that her notes might in the general scramble rise above par, by ordaining that in such event they should be sold. It would have been great inconsideration for the State to have anticipated the coming of a time when, as now, the prices of things should be regulated by a currency $300 of which are required to buy $100 in gold, and leave her officers bound to pay those prices in a currency $250 of which would buy $100 in gold. That is not within our definition of a "little business." Besides, as Gov. Bragg says, our notes when above par could not *remain currency;* and then what wisdom would it be in the State to treat that as a currency which the laws of trade forbid to be so? It strikes us as not without force, when considering the allegation that it is a singular thing for North Carolina to offer to sell her notes under the circumstances supposed, to remark, that when the first act was passed authorising the Treasurer to *borrow money* by *issuing* the bonds of the State, it was quite as singular that she expected to do it by *selling her bonds;* and quite as singular that the Treasurer then in office thought himself justified in making such sale by a word occurring only in a proviso, or mentioned casually. This under the hypothesis that the State intended to create a currency;—otherwise, the matter seems to be beyond any doubt.

Singular however or otherwise—"little business" or large—there stands the provision couched in Treasury parlance, viz: the notes to be *issued*, and then a proviso that they shall not be *sold* for less than par; just as in case of millions of dollars worth of the bonds which Mr. Courts has been selling for the State for some years past. One reason why selling these notes is expressly referred to, is common learning with everybody who attended to matters of public interest in North Carolina in Dec'r 1861. Every such person recollects that a very eminent and venerable member of the Convention, whilst admitting the necessity of issuing what would in effect be a currency, was troubled with such doubts of its constitutionality as to rack his imagination for means to distort its features so that a Court might not be able to *see* that it was a currency, or bills of credit. He caused it to be interest-bearing, and in the same spirit, perhaps, the usual proviso about State bonds was inserted. The notes were in effect to be petty bonds. The former feature was afterwards stricken out, but the latter was retained, and expressly applied to subsequent issues. Read in the light of subsequent Ordinances, the proviso would be altered only as to the rate of interest it forbids, and as to its allusion to the interest upon the face of the notes.

One other point made for Mr. Courts is, that the difference in the wording of the Ordinance providing for the payment of the Confederate tax, and that of the Ordinances in hand, shows that the Convention intended a difference in his action under them. This will not serve. If the words of the Ordinances before us authorise a sale, the fact that another Ordinance has, say, stronger words—(that relied upon here is "apply")—to mean the same thing, will not deprive the former of their legitimate force. Everybody knows how upon some occasions Legislators insist upon inserting superfluous words, upon the plea, if all others fail, that they will do no harm. A reference to the charters under which the Treasurer has been directed to issue bonds, will show the Legislature using various expressions (greatly differing in force and plainness) to describe the way in which the bonds were to be issued. Yet the Treasurer sold under the weak expressions no less than under the emphatic, and did right.

Such is the case upon this legal question: The word *issue*, when used in directing a State Treasurer to put forth State paper, allows of its sale unless restrained by context or subject matter. And when a proviso in the law speaks of *sale* as one of the methods of *issue*, no plain man could fail to understand it. Nor can it be said for Mr. Courts, that he cannot be blamed for erring along with Messrs Moore and Bragg. The matter was one of technical information—of office routine,—in which his experience and familiarity with the machinery of the Treasury gave him an advantage over every man in North Carolina.

We hope that the great interest taken in this matter will excuse the length of this discussion. The State has lost some $300,000, and the question is as to the party to be blamed—the Convention or the Treasurer. A Legislative investigation has been made, and the Report (giving *four* pages to the argument against Mr. Courts and *fourteen* to those in his favor) shows no desire to do that gentleman injustice either as regards the space occupied in his defence or the weight of names arrayed upon either side. The view taken in this article is different from any in the Report and accompanying papers. Upon the whole perhaps it would have been better for Mr. Courts to have relied upon those simple grounds of defence which Gov. Bragg passes by somewhat slightingly, viz: that the engraver's plates for the notes had been lost by the fall of New Orleans, and that the public creditors pressed too heavily for the notes to be issued so as to supply the demand;—rather this, we mean, than to have allowed his Counsel to bear him upon their pinions into the dizzy heights of statutory construction and financial metaphysics. If he had done so, he would have lost nothing, and we should have had a fresher impression of what, after all this stumbling and mismanagement we still verily believe, viz: that Mr Courts's character for integrity remains untouched.

We have received from Mr. Calder, in Columbia, fully opened Peach Blossoms.—*Charlotte Courier.*

CONGRESS.—On Saturday, the Senate was not in session. In the House nothing of importance occurred.

On Monday, the Senate had a long debate on the Exemption bill, chiefly in regard to exemption of reporters &c. for newspapers. Mr Brown of Miss. looked upon newspapers as mere "private enterprises, conducted for individual interest and emolument," and he was against exemptions. Messrs Yancey of Ala. and Johnson and Hill of Geo. regarded the Press as one of the estates of the gov't—a great power in the country—of immense utility—looked to by all to enlighten the public mind on all great questions. The people looked to it for information from their kindred in the army, and the soldiers for news from home. The bill remained incomplete.

The House debated, without result, a bill to provide for the arrest of soldiers absent without leave, and to reward their captors. A secret session on the currency bill was then held.

On Tuesday nothing of interest. There was a secret session in each house.

BANK NOTES.—We learn that some surprise has been expressed in the country at the advertisements in the papers of Raleigh, Wilmington and Fayetteville, offering to purchase the notes of Banks. It ought to be sufficient to quiet any uneasiness produced thereby, to state, that these movements probably proceed from Richmond, where bank notes are used to pay for Northern goods to be smuggled across the Potomac into the Confederacy. Gold and silver and State stocks are not always to be had in sufficient quantities, and next to these the yankees appear to like Bank Notes. No one could expect them to receive Confederate notes, for that would expose them to the danger of a residence in Fort Lafayette.

But we warn people in the Confederacy who may seize upon this or any other pretext as a reason for refusing or discrediting Confederate notes, that they will thereby be laying up for themselves an evil name which will stick to them as the name *tory* stuck to those who worked or fought against independence in the Revolution of 1776. The cause depends upon the goodness of the Confederate currency, and every man and patriot should receive it as readily as any other currency—indeed we say more readily, since he thereby helps the cause.

ALARMING.—From the Raleigh State Journal we copy the following sentences from a long editorial article:—

"*The North Carolina Treasury turned into a Broker's Shop.*—Last week the Public Treasurer, Mr. Jonathan Worth, was engaged in peddling N. C. Treasury notes at a premium of five per cent. for Confederate currency! By what authority is this done? Who authorized this petty peddling transaction with the State's funds? What does it mean? What, the Public Treasurer of the State of North Carolina engaged in a deliberate, systematic scheme of depreciating Confederate currency! and at a time when every effort of the Government and of every patriot is directed to the means of bringing that currency up to something approximating a fair standard of value.

"We have no hesitation in denouncing it as a disgraceful act and as one calculated to bring shame upon the State and greater distress upon the suffering people. It is so *small* a business that it will be looked upon by our sister States with loathing and contempt."

This explosion of *virtuous* indignation will certainly arouse the Richmond Enquirer, if not the people of North Carolina. What! the Public Treasurer "engaged in peddling?" What sort of a wagon did he have? a regular yankee tin-peddler's wagon? And what did he carry in it besides Treasury notes? Did he realise as handsome a profit on the rest of his "notions" as on the Treasury notes? Did he pay the regular peddler's tax? The State Journal owes it to its readers of the new party of members of the Legislature and others to expose this whole business of peddling.

It is true that Mr. Courts sold his State bonds last year at a premium of 5 per cent.; but he didn't "peddle" them. He was above that. He sent them to a broker in Richmond who did the peddling and sent Mr. Courts the profits, after deducting the trifling sum of $3,286 25 for doing the "disgraceful act."

Of course the reader sees through this transparent humbug. Mr. Courts has been censured for not selling at a premium *all* (as he did a *part*) of the State obligations issued last year. To justify Mr. Courts's policy, by which the State failed to make upwards of $300,000 which brokers *did* make, it is thought expedient to raise a hue and cry against Mr. Worth, who is very sensibly engaged in getting such a premium as the State's obligations are worth in the market. He cannot make $300,000 for the State in that way, for he is not authorized to issue so many millions as Mr. Courts did, but he will make for the Treasury some $50,000 to $100,000.

"By what authority is this done?" asks the Journal. We think we have clearly shown the authority in another article to-day. As to "depreciating the Confederate currency," let the Journal assail Mr. Courts, who with great good sense set Mr. Worth the example in that, only he confined his operations to about $1,400,000 for which he got a premium of $40,000, and then improperly gave away at par to brokers and others upwards of $4,000,000 more, instead of "peddling" that too at a further profit to the State of upwards of $800,000. Mr. Courts "depreciated the Confederate currency" by selling his issues in Richmond as high as 6 per cent., *taking pay in Confederate notes.*

Oh! humbug! humbug!

GOV. BROWN OF GEORGIA.—Amidst the vagaries of this functionary, who seems to have been entirely successful in bullying the War Department at Richmond and nullifying such laws as did not meet his own approval, we are glad to record one noble act. Having from $3000 to $4000 worth of corn more than he needs for his own plantation, he has given it to his County Court (Cherokee county,) for the widows and poor families of soldiers in that County. The Atlanta Intelligencer says that he has frequently given money and provisions for the same purpose, and that his wife also has been liberal with money and labor ever since the war began.

The Baltimore Republican, in commenting on Napoleon's letter to Gen. Forey says:

"Must we, under the lead of a junta of visionary madmen, still imitate the dog in the fable, and grasping at the shadow lose the substance? There is but one of two courses left for the Government to pursue in order to avoid the very worst future consequences of these designs of the French Emperor. It will either be compelled to accept a war with France, whilst the South is still in arms, or by a speedy recognition of the seceded States, at once defeat the schemes of Napoleon and put an end to the civil war. We do not know whether this will be considered 'treason' by the powers that be, but it is our honest conviction that it is the only course by which, not only this country, but the continent, will be saved from complications with the diplomacy and powers of Europe."

City of Mexico taken by the French.—The Galveston News of the 20th says that an official letter from the French consul at Matamoras announces the capture of the city of Mexico by the French; also that Tampico was occupied by the French and Reactionists, and that Matamoras would also soon be occupied by the French, who had an army of 40,000 men—more than sufficient for the conquest of the whole country.—*Columbus Eng.*

To the Clerks.—The Comptroller of the State urgently requests the Clerks of the County Courts of the several Counties, to forward him immediately by mail the number of Tax Collection Districts in each County. The press of this State will please notice this request.—*Wil. Journal.*

LATEST WAR NEWS.

KINSTON, Feb'y 24, 1863.—Editors State Journal:—I had an interview this morning, with a reliable gentleman who came out from Beaufort a few days ago. He informed me, that quite an excitement came off in that town on one day last week, caused by the abolitionists attempting to press three seamen, (citizens of that place,) into the federal naval service, as pilots for the coast of South Carolina and Georgia, and especially for Charleston bar. The pilots peremptorily refused to serve under any consideration whatever, telling the yankees that they much preferred death to aiding in leading the enemy's fleet against their land and kindred. After a considerable runpous on the part of the loyal portion of the inhabitants of the town, both male and female, the pilots were released.

The entire fleet has left the port of Beaufort and gone South, with the exception of twelve gunboats and transports. Not more than 500 federal soldiers are in and around Beaufort at this time, including about 200 buffaloes and a few negroes that are under arms.

Gov. Stanly, as he is called, was burned in effigy by the buffaloes and negroes one day last week, for opposing the enlistment of negro soldiers into the service. Lincoln has refused to accept Stanly's resignation and has ordered him back to Newbern but I learn that he refuses to comply with his master's orders for the present.

A Lady who came out from Newbern, a few days ago, reports about fifteen Regiments at that post.

This seems to be the most reliable information we have received from inside the enemy's lines for several days past.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 24.—A British steamer reached a Confederate port yesterday. Another British steamer in entering this port last night ran aground on the shoals about one mile from Sullivan's Island beach, where she now lies in full view of the blockaders. She contains a valuable cargo from Nassau. The news at Nassau was unimportant. The iron-clads Chicora and Palmetto State have gone down to protect the steamer ashore. It is expected she will be afloat this afternoon. The French War Steamer Renaudin was tugged off the shoals this morning, and is now within the harbor. It is also rumored that another merchantman steamer from Nassau got aground last night, several miles above Sullivan's Island, but the report needs confirmation.

From the West, &c.—CHATTANOOGA, Feb. 23d.—Parties from the front report cannonading heard in the direction of Unionville on our left yesterday morning. It is reported that Rosecrans has advanced, half way betweed Murfreesboro' and Middleton.

Dispatches to the Nashville Union of the 18th state that Fremont has been sent to Texas, and Butler returns to New Orleans.

Three prizes has been captured by the Alabama off Kingston.

FREDERICKSBURG, Feb. 23.—Heavy snow commenced falling last night. It has attained a depth in some places, where it has drifted, of fully twelve inches.

Bold expressions from a Northern Clergyman.—At a recent meeting of the Democratic Club of Philadelphia, the Rev. C. C. Burr, formerly editor of the New York Daily News, was one of the speakers, and denounced the Administration of Lincoln in the most bitter terms. He said it was a drunken Administration, besotted with its isolation of the Constitution, and had never had one honest pulsation for the good of the country. It was a set of rascals. He had lately been to Washington and his soul was filled with shame when he saw the streets of that city filled with lunatics and persons looking as if they had come from Bedlam or some Free-Love association. The members of the Administration, the speaker said, were not fit to be boot-blacks for his honorable auditors. [Applause.] Abraham Lincoln is a greater traitor than Jefferson Davis. What has Jeff Davis done? He has merely infringed upon our territorial jurisdiction; he has not struck at the Constitution.

"When the soul of this Government is dead, I for one, care not what becomes of its body." [Applause.] "If a plot which is now proposed should succeed, that one of our soldiers should go to Richmond and assassinate Jeff. Davis and bring back his head, he hoped it would be put on Abe Lincoln's shoulders." [Loud and long continued cheering.]

LATEST FROM THE NORTH.

Special Dispatch to the Richmond Enquirer.

FREDERICKSBURG, Feb. 24.—I have received United States papers of the 20th and 21st, from which I extract the following:

Attitude of France towards the United States.—The New York Times of the 19th avows the conviction, to which it has come "*with reluctance,*" that the French Emperor has determined to open Southern ports by the first of April for the export of cotton, and that he (Napoleon) will welcome rather than deprecate war as the consequence of such an act.

The Nat. Intelligencer does not share this conviction.

National Currency.—Both Houses of the Yankee Congress have passed the bill to provide for a national currency, secured by a pledge of U. S. stocks.

Some idea of this bill can be gathered from the speech of Mr. Baker, who said:

"This bill, if carried into effect, proposes to introduce an incovertible and irredeemable currency. Shame *upon its authors.* By this scheme our banking system will be totally annihilated and driven but by taxation. The bill gives unlimited power to one man. It places in the hands of the Secretary the basis of the whole banking institutions of the country."

Charleston and Savannah.—The N. Y. Commercial Advertiser says the assault on these places will be more like a protracted siege than an overwhelming attack. The Charleston and Savannah channels have been planted with torpedoes, and obstructions placed therein, so that the torpedoes failing to accomplish their mission, the vessels will be held under fire long enough to seriously cripple them. We may pause before we contemplate an easy victory. Fort McAlister is now plated and impenetrable to the Montauk's shot, as the Montauk is to that of the fort. Above the fort is lined with obstructions and torpedoes, which prevent iron-clads from successfully passing the river. Until the torpedoes and obstructions are removed, the iron-clads cannot be made effective, and these cannot be removed while the fort remains.

The defences of Charleston are represented as equally elaborate as those of Savannah.

The attack upon these places will be a severe one, and a victory, if gained, will be dearly purchased.

The Yankee Conscription.—This measure which has passed the Senate, provides for the enrollment and calling into service, if needs be, of all the able-bodied men between twenty and forty-five. The only exemptions being the Governors and State Judges, the only sons of poor widows and a few others. Substantially, as the New York Times says, it is putting all the able-bodied men of the loyal States in for *three* years, and all told, the force will number *three* millions.

[We shall now see whether the yankees will submit to such a law. We do not think they will.]

Kentucky.—The Kentucky House of Representatives, on the 11th inst., rescinded the resolutions passed the day before, inviting commissioners from other States to meet its commissioners at Louisville to discuss terms of peace.

The Connecticut Democratic Convention at Hartford, nominated Thomas H. Seymour for Governor. Strong resolutions were adopted, denouncing the usurpation of the General Government, the Militia bill, National Currency bill, the Emancipation Proclamation, the Suspension of the Habeas Corpus, abridgment of the liberty of speech and of the press, the dismemberment of the State of Virginia, and pledging themselves to the Western States to unite with them in measures for procuring a cessation of hostilities and for a restoration of the Union.

Work of our Privateersmen.—The Alabama, after leaving Kingston, captured the brig Chastelaine, of Boston, took her nautical instruments, $800 in gold, and then burnt her. She has also captured and burnt the bark Golden Rule. The crews were landed at San Domingo. The schooner Hanover, from Boston to Aux Cayes, was captured and burnt by the Retribution near Hayti on the 31st ult., where her crew was landed.

Three swift-sailing, heavy armed steamers are to start from New York in pursuit of the Florida and Alabama as soon as the Yankee Congress passed the bill before it granting letters of marque and reprisal.

Burnside has been assigned a new command, but it is not stated what it is.

Gen. Foster returned to the South on the 19th.

The Markets.—Gold closed in New York on the 19th at 162½

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE OBSERVER.

RICHMOND, Feb'y 22.

Messrs. Editors:—While we repose confidence in our eastern defences, our affairs in the West are not in so hopeful a condition. The enemy still struggles to gain control of the Mississippi River, and once fully in possession of it, he cannot be driven from it till forced to make peace and recognize us, and the possession of that river will be a powerful advantage to the enemy in making a treaty of peace. To get full and immediate control of that river and its tributaries would, I believe, ensure an increase of the yankee army of 500,000 men. Vicksburg has been termed the key of the Mississippi, though I regard Port Hudson of much greater importance. If Vicksburg be the key, Port Hudson is the lock of the Mississippi. Port Hudson is a very strong position among gigantic bluffs on the east side of the Mississippi river in Louisiana, a considerable distance below the mouth of Red river and 10 or 15 miles above Baton Rouge. It is connected by a short railroad (probably not completed) with Clinton, La., some 30 miles Northeast, and Clinton is probably 40 or 50 miles from the nearest point on the N. O. & Jackson R. R. The space between Port Hudson and Vicksburg, some 200 or 300 miles, is the portion of the river we now hold. The Red river, which flanks the State of Arkansas on the South and South-west, flows in between these points, and the Wachita, which penetrates the heart of Arkansas from the South, joins the Red some 50 miles or more above the mouth of that river. It is said that Port Hudson is the only place in our possession below the Red river where gunboats can be prevented from passing, and should that place fall it would necessitate the abandonment of the whole State of Arkansas and North-western Louisiana and a falling back on Texas as a base, and Vicksburg would then be of little importance to us.

There being no railroads in that country, and the dirt roads being often impassable, there can be no effectual transportation except by the rivers. If we should throw troops across near Vicksburg the enemy could send forces on their front from the Wachita on both flanks from the Red and Arkansas rivers, and in their rear from the Mississippi. By the fall of Arkansas Post the enemy has the Arkansas river, which traverses the State diagonally and gives him free communication to the capital and heart of the state at high water; and the White and St. Francis rivers have been for some time under his control. Should Vicksburg fall or be of no avail, there are other points below, capable of formidable defence, such as Grand Gulf, Natchez, Fort Adams, and many bluffs and places not named on the maps. The river makes a large bend eastward at Vicksburg, somewhat like a horse shoe though not of that form exactly, and the town and fortifications are on the outside of this bend. The yankees are now cutting a new channel for the river, entirely leaving off this bend and thus straightening the river. Several beds in the river have been cut off in this way and and I do not see any reason to doubt their success in this attempt. They succeeded at Island No. 10, and indeed the river often makes these "cuts-off" itself, Sunflower, Tensas, Atchafalaya and Bayou Teche are really "cuts-off." Whether they succeed in changing the bed of the river or not they will have a canal through which they can convey transports and gunboats. We could still hold Red river and a portion of the Mississippi if we have proper fortifications below Vicksburg, while if Port Hudson falls we lose the river on the other side and all the advantages that our possession of Vicksburg now affords.

It is remarkable that the yankees let two of the noblest opportunities presented during the war, pass unimproved. Just after the destruction of the Merrimac the gunboats could have easily passed Drewry's Bluff and got to Richmond; and Port Hudson was not fortified till some time after the fall of New Orleans. Let us hope that both places will prove equally successful barriers against the attacks of the invader.

The next Governor's election is attracting some attention in this State. It comes off in May I believe. The present incumbent will not be a candidate I suppose—probably on account of ineligibility. Gov. Letcher has acted a more prominent part in this revolution than any State officer, though Gov. Pickens was perhaps more conspicuous at the commencement. John Letcher was born in Lexington, Rockbridge Co., Va., March 29th, 1813. He entered Washington College but graduated at Randolph Macon; studied law and commenced practice and publishing the "Valley Star" in Lexington in 1839. He was a member of Congress for many years, where his candor, zeal and faithful discharge of duty secured for him the title of "Honest John." In May 1859 he was elected Governor of Virginia for four years over Wm. L. Goggin, a man of great ability and reputation. Gov. Letcher has always been a Democrat and an able advocate of State Rights, and has displayed much skill and statesmanship in managing the affairs of the State. In *personnel* he is of medium size, with blue eyes, florid complexion, lower jaw longer than the upper, nearly bald, and 50 years of age. He wears spectacles, smokes a big clay pipe with reed stem, dresses plainly and is careless, independent, and somewhat abrupt in his manners, but has a turn for popularity. It is said that he was an emancipationist early in life; and also, that he is intemperate in his habits.

There has been a great rush for clerkships and positions in the Departments here, and it is said that in the Treasury Depaatment alone there are 300 applications and only one vacancy and that is prospective! Judging from the Confederate Almanac and other sources there are but few North Carolinians in office here. I am informed of only *two*—Mr. Page of Randolph, Doorkeeper of the Senate, and Mr. Fuller of Fayetteville, a clerk in one of the baureaus—I hope these gentlemen will stand up for the rights of our State; for in all measures of National policy and in treaties with other nations the Old North State must look to them as her representatives to exert a due share of influence among the Executive heads of the nation (?)

Of what may be termed the President's staff is Adjutant and Inspector General Cooper, Quartermaster General Myers, Commissary General Northrop, and Surgeon General Moore, all with rank of Colonel, as provided by Act of Congress—President Davis, however, assigned Gen. Cooper, who was a full General, to the duties of Adj't and Inspt'r Gen'l and as a superior officer always retains his higher rank with its pay when performing the duties of an inferior, Gen. Cooper ranks as General though in the office of a Colonel.

Gen. Samuel Cooper is a native of New Jersey, graduated at West Point, was in the Mexican war, and is author of a revised edition of Macomb's tactics. He is some 70 years old, is hard of hearing, has a way of squinting and holding his head to one side and is very quiet and unpretending. He is very assiduous, systematic and energetic in the duties of his office, and is thought to be an efficient officer.

A. C. Myers is of Jewish descent though not a Jew himself. He was raised near Georgetown, S. C., was in the Quartermaster department of the U. S. Army, and married a daughter of General Twiggs of the old Army and more recently of N. Orleans. He is some 40 years old, of good education and business qualifications, and deserves more credit than he has received for the management of the Quartermaster department.

L. B. Northrop is also a native of S. C. near Charleston, and was in the old army. His father was a Northern man and his mother was a Bellinger—a family of distinction in S. C. He belongs to the Roman Catholic Church, as did his mother's family.

S. P. Moore is a South Carolinian and an old army surgeon. He is a sour looking individual, some 50 yrs. old, a harsh, profane man, not possessing in my judgment qualifications and disposition requisite for that position. Truly, LONG GRABS.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

HEAD Q'RS. HARRINGTON LT. ARTILLERY, South Quay, Va., Feb. 19.

Messrs. Editors:—As I know your sympathies privately and editorially have been fairly enlisted and openly expressed for the families of soldiers and the soldiers themselves in these days of extortioners and swindlers, permit me to hold up for the execration of all good and patriotic citizens of the South, the heartless conduct of a citizen of ——— county who has recently been guilty of exacting and receiving from the wife of one of my men, *ten dollars for four bushels of corn*, when he could have given it to her, as well as to have taken from her a price so much greater than the usual one for that article, or than even the supply and demand warranted.

I blush, sirs, for my native county and neighborhood, (for it occurred near my own residence,) while I am compelled thus to publish the infamy of a man who has the means to do better, if he would; but the devil seems to have taken undisputed possession of the souls of many men in these days, who in their thirst for greedy gain, add to their worldly pelf by, and fatten on, orphans' tears and widows' sighs.

Let him look to himself, and in the deepest atonement, and fairest restitution, clear himself of this damnable sin, or *woe be to him*.

He has done *nothing* for his country himself, nor has a single one of his immediate family, though the liability to military duty of at least one son, is well known to myself, as well as others.

But his is not an isolated case, even in the perlious of that seat of wealth and refinement, the county seat of my native county. Others, "and their name is legion," have done not only too little for their country in this her time of need, but greatly too much against her, by withholding themselves and their own from the sacrifice which all should have freely offered upon the altar of their country.

Many, sirs, when the tocsin of war first sounded the alarum, and our political skies became o'ercast with clouds portentious of the coming storm, sang the loudest peans of praise to the goddess of liberty, and with fulsome eloquence called on the yeomanry of the land to "awake from the lethargic slumbers which held them in their fatal embraces; shake the dew drops that glittered upon their garments, and boldly repel the ruthless invader that threatened their firesides and their altars;" who, seeming to think nobody was patriotic but themselves, that they were called, like Peter the Hermit, to traverse the land, and arouse a sleeping people; who, I repeat, even while "in thoughts that breathe and words that burn," they called on others to fight, were carefully and stealthily trimming their sails to the storm, in pure selfishness, to save their own precious corporosities, those of their families, and their possessions, from the dangers which they saw menaced the land.

Scores of able-bodied and intelligent young men are evading their country's calls by subterfuges and excuses unworthy of honorable men, and, standing idly by, see others achieve for them redemption from a tyrant's rule.

Some have "married a wife," some "have bought a field or a yoke of oxen, and must needs go look at them;" and some whose fathers never before would trust with 25 cents—*O mirabile dictu!*—have got "twenty niggers."

And not a few, having been deemed necessary to add dignity to our judiciary, have been made Magistrates, (at their own request par parenthesis,) don'd the ermine and now shed such lustre around the woolsack, that lawyers have only to collect their "retainers" and find the balance of their clients' jobs already done to their hand.

And some too, are indispensably necessary upon the staff of Militia Brigadiers, Colonels, &c., and for the security of the laws some are *obliged* to be Captains and Lieutenants—(for old men won't do for such responsible places,)—and you may see them weekly at County cross roads, gaily bedecked in all "the pomp and circumstance of glorious war," worrying and harrassing a few rheumatic old men, by such commands, most pompously delivered, as—"*Shoulder guns.*" "*Order guns.*" "*From two ranks go four double—March.*"

But badinage aside, there are too many men at home who ought to be in the army, and too many throughout the entire South, who seem to live now only to clutch the last morsel from the mouths of the starving children of those who are undergoing hardships in camp and exposed to death in the field, in the maintenance of principles which should be equally dear to all.

Can those who thus shirk their duty expect either the esteem of their fellow citizens, or the plaudit, "well done good and faithful servant"? Can they expect any thing but the hisses and contempt of those who have acted differently? I trow not, unless they be as greatly wanting in common sense as in active patriotism and devotion to their country.

Let them, then, instead of idly remaining at home, and greedily grasping the hard earnings of the poor soldiers from their wives and little ones, either come to the field and share with them the toils and dangers of the camp and field, or practice at home a more christian and patriotic charity than heretofore.

The case I have mentioned is not an isolated one, for I could, if my time and your patience permitted, enumerate others as bad; but I will close, with the repeated admonition to those who thus prey upon defenceless women and children, and who neglect their duty to their country "*Look to yourselves.*"

Very respectfully, L. H. W.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH, NEAR CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb'y 26, 1863.

Messrs. E. J. & Sons:—You will oblige many friends in the Reg't by publishing the following:

"Promoted, Hector McKethan, Major 51st Reg't N. C. T., to the Colonelcy of the same Reg't, vice John L. Cantwell and W. A. Allen, resigned. The promotion is the more creditable to the Colonel for the reason that although entitled to the position by seniority he refused to accept it until the officers of the Reg't had unanimously petitioned him to do so."

All is quiet here and the prospect of an early attack seems to be growing less. All parties seem to be confident of success if we are attacked; no signs of fear to be seen in the city. The market is fine but the prices awful, and the officer who feeds and clothes himself decently now, will have to get more than his wages.

CAMP 54th N. C. Reg., Feb. 19.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Sons: In my report to your paper of the casualties of my Reg't in the battle of Fredericksburg a mistake occurred, which I hope you will grant me the indulgence in your columns to correct. In that Report, the command of company K, which was commanded by Capt. S. J. Parham, was assigned to Lieut. Carnwell, who commanded company I. I make this correction, that friends and acquaintances noticing the report may not be misled, and too, that "honor may be awarded where 'tis due."

W. C. McDANIEL, Adjt.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Killed at the Battle of Elkhorn, Missouri, NATHANIEL LAWHON, Sergeant in Capt. Hart's Co. from Arkansas.

The subject of this brief notice was born and raised in Moore county, N. C., of respectable parentage. The vivacity of youth was tempered by the influences of that religion which he embraced at an early age. Allured by the glittering prospect of usefulness and honor in the distant West, "he left the home of his childhood and the friends of his youth" with emotions too big for utterance; but trusting to the future, so full of hope and promise to him, he went forth and fulfilled the injunction, "let all the ends thou aimest at, be thy God's, thy Country's and Truth."

In a letter written from Boonsboro', Arkansas, May 18th, 1861, to his mother and sister, he says, "I have joined a volunteer company. We leave next Monday, bound for Kansas; I would rather my blood should drench Southern soil, than to see it trampled on by Abolitionists and foreigners." Again he writes on the 5th of Sept. 1861: "We have had one battle, 4 skirmishes and 5 or 6 runs after the abolitionists." After giving a description of the terrible battle of Oak Hill, he says, I am going on in the army until peace is made, or death removes me. Do not be troubled about me; if I die in the cause of my country, I would never die a more honorable death." Soon after writing the above sentiment, he offered up his life upon the altar of his country, at the memorable battle of Elkhorn. One of his comrades in speaking of him says, "Poor Natt, I knew him well; I caught him as he fell; he died instantly; he was a gallant fellow, a good soldier, and died at his post, fighting like a tiger." Thus ended the life of one, around whom clustered so many fond hopes. The blow falls heavily upon his parents, he being the second son that has fallen in the present war. But they may rejoice in the hope, "that he was prepared for death, and if so, he is only removed from scenes of war, blood, toil, strife and suffering, to a land of peace, pleasure, joy and delight. AMICUS.

Carthage, Jan. 28, 1863.

Presbyterian please copy.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, No. 22, RICHMOND, VA., Feb. 24, 1863.

I ledge through the columns of your paper the following contributions:

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Sons: Gentlemen: Please acknowledge through the columns of your paper the following contributions:

From the Cumberland Hospital Association: 2 pieces sheeting, 159 sheets, 2 comforts, 69 towels, 125 shirts, 193 drawers, 20 pieces carpeting, 117 doz. eggs, 27 chickens, 20 lbs. butter, 3 bus. meal, soap, herbs, wine, &c.

From the Young Ladies' Knitting Society: 106 prs socks, 22 prs Gloves.

From Mrs J C Hooker: ½ bus. dried apples, 1 gal. vinegar, 2 boxes mustard, 1 jar pickles, 1 jar sweet pickles, 1 bottle sauce, 4 lbs. butter, 1 bottle blackberry wine.

From Mrs J C Newby: 1 ham, 1 bottle wine, sausages.

From Mrs D F Holmes: Wine, sausage, butter, dried fruit.

From Miss Kate Washington: 4 bottles wine, 2 do. catsup, jar strawberry jelly, jar guava jelly.

From Mrs L J Haughton: 4 hams, 1 gal. wine, pickles, 1 bottle cordial, dried fruit.

From Mrs Frasier: Chickens, vinegar, wine, butter.

From Mrs Strange: $10.

The above named articles have been received at the hands of Mr. W. J. Myrover to whose patriotic exertions this Hospital is indebted for the donations above-named. This gentleman has been most assiduous in his severe task of duty; working in our righteous cause, independent alike of personal remuneration and loss of time.

Our thanks are, likewise, due to the ladies of your section of country, from whom the donations have been received, thus manifesting a noble response to the call of the soldier.

ADDISON COX, Surgeon in charge Gen' Hospital No. 22.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

TRIBUTE OF RESPECT.

CAMP 24TH REG'T N. C. TROOPS, NEAR KENANSVILLE.

At a meeting of the officers of the 24th Reg't assembled pursuant to notice on the 20th day of Feb'y 1863, to pay a tribute of respect to the late Lieut. LONDON BROWN, Lieut. Col. John L. Harris was called to the Chair, and Lieut. Charles S. Powell was appointed Sec'y.

The meeting being organised, on motion a committee of three, consisting of Capts. J. A. Williams, J. H. Baker and W. J. Squiggins was appointed to draft resolutions.

The committee after retiring returned and reported as follows:

Whereas: It has pleased the Great Giver of all good to remove from earth our late comrade in arms, Lieut. London Brown, Co. E, 24th Reg't N. C. T., who died from a wound received in the battle of Fredericksburg. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That while we submit with resignation to the will of Providence in removing from our midst Lt. Brown, yet we sincerely deplore the loss which his friends and the cause have sustained by the premature death of this most meritorious officer.

Resolved, That it is a melancholy pleasure to pay this tribute of respect to his fervent patriotism as a man and eminent merits as an officer, and that we tender his family our heartfelt sympathy in their sad bereavement.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family and also to the Fayetteville Observer, Raleigh Standard, State Journal and Register.

After the passage of these resolutions Col. W. J Clark made some appropriate and eloquent remarks eulogistic of Lieut. Brown, whose zeal, fidelity and efficiency as an officer had from the first elicited his warmest admiration.

Lt. Col. JNO. L. HARRIS, Chm'n.
CHARLES S. POWELL, Sec'y.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Johnsonville District, Harnett County, N. C.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Sons:—Allow me to acknowledge through your paper the receipt of the following articles, donated to the soldiers by the citizens of Johnsonville District, which I delivered to the Colonel of the Regiment, on the 24 day of December, 1862; with the money subscribed I bought cloth: Mr K P Harmon 6 yds mixed jeans; Mrs K P Harmon 1 quilt; Mr N A Morrison 1 blanket; Miss Narcissus Cameron 1 pr socks; Miss Caroline Smith 1 pr socks; Mrs J T Armstrong 1 pr socks; Miss Mary Collins 1 shirt; Mrs Wm D Cameron 1 shirt; Mrs B C Jackson 1 pr socks; Miss Nancy C Cameron 2 pr socks; Miss Fodie Cameron 2 pr socks; Miss Flora McGregor 1 quilt; Miss Melinda Armstrong 2 shirts, 1 pr drawers, 2 pr socks; Mrs John W Cameron a lot of balm and pepper; Miss Catharine M McDonald 1 blanket; Miss Jennet McDonald 1 blanket; Miss Sarah A McK McDonald 1 blanket; Mrs L McN McDonald 1 blanket, 2 pr socks; Miss Mary A McNeill 1 pr socks; Mrs Alvin Smith 1 yd mixed jeans; Miss Arch'd Johnson 1 pr socks; Mrs R C Belden 1 blanket; Mrs James K Driver 2 pr socks, 1 neck comfort, 1 pr gloves; Mrs Alex M Cameron 2 pr socks, 1 pr gloves; Mrs Malcom Dove 1 pr socks, 1 pr gloves; Mrs H W Graham 1 pr socks; Mrs Sarah McDonald; (Barbecue Dist.) 1 pr socks; Neill A Cameron $20; John M Wright $2; Duncan McLean $5; Neill D Buie $3; Neill Smith $2; Mrs Allen J Cameron $2.

L. McN. McDONALD,
Capt. Johnsonville District.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

A list of articles contributed in District No. 1, Moore county, and sent to our soldiers during the month of November last: Mrs Catharine Stone 1 blanket; Mrs Daniel Kelly 2 coats, 1 pr socks; Jas Kelly 1 pr shoes; Mrs John McPherson 1 coat, 1 pr pants, 1 shirt, 1 pr drawers, 1 neck comfort, 1 towel; Wm Johnson 3 shirts, 5 prs pants, 1 vest, 1 pr drawers, 4 prs socks, 1 pr shoes; Mrs Sarah McDonald 1 overcoat, 1 comfort, 2 prs socks; Mrs John McQueen 2 shirts, 2 prs drawers, 1 pr pants, 4 prs socks, 1 pr gloves, 1 blanket; Mrs E McN Blue 2 flannel shirts, 2 prs socks, 1 pr pants; Misses Catharine and Sarah Ferguson 2 blankets, 2 vests, 3 shirts, 4 prs socks, 2 prs gloves, 3 prs pants, 3 prs drawers, 1 neck comfort; Mrs Rebecca Ann Munroe 1 pr pants, 1 pr drawers, 1 shirt, 1 blanket, 2 prs socks; Miss Sarah Ferguson 1 blanket, 1 vest, 2 shirts, 2 prs socks; Miss Jane B Goodman 1 quilt, 2 prs socks, 1 overcoat, 2 cravats; Mrs Daniel B McKeithan 1 pr flannel drawers, 1 shirt, 1 blanket, 2 prs socks; Miss Mary Ann Johnson 1 comfort, 1 pr pants, 1 shirt, 2 prs socks, 2 prs gloves; Mrs Andrew Medlin 2 prs socks, 1 pr gloves; Mrs Jane McDonald 1 comfort, 1 pr gloves, 1 pr flannel drawers, 1 pr socks; John M D Cameron 1 pr shoes; Mrs John M D Cameron 1 pr pants, 3 prs socks, 1 blanket; Mrs Fergus Ferguson 1 quilt, 2 prs socks, 1 pr gloves; Mrs Duncan Johnson 1 blanket; Mrs James Maples 1 pr pants, 3 shirts, 1 vest, 2 prs gloves, 3 prs socks, 2 neck comforts; Mrs Nancy Stokes 1 blanket, 2 prs pants, 1 vest, 2 prs socks; Mrs Henry Arnold 1 comfort, 1 shirt, 1 pr pants; Mrs John McNeill 3 blankets, 5 prs socks, 1 shirt, 2 flannel shirts, 1 pr pants, 1 pr drawers, 1 neck comfort; Mrs Martha Brixton 1 pr pants, 2 prs socks, 1 pr drawers; Miss Flora McLean 1 quilt, 1 shirt, 1 pr drawers, 1 pr pants, 3 prs socks, 1 pr gloves; Mrs John McLean 1 hat, 1 shirt; Miss Christian McDonald 2 blankets, 2 shirts, 1 pr pants, 5 prs socks; Mrs John McDonald 1 blanket, 1 shirt, 1 pr socks; Gilbert Thompson 1 pr shoes; Mrs N McK McNeill 2 flannel shirts, 2 prs gloves, 5 prs socks, 1 pr drawers, 1 pr shoes, 1 pr pants, 1 neck comfort; Rufus Thompson 1 pr socks; Mrs Neill L McLauchlin 1 coat, 1 pr pants, 3 prs socks, 2 shirts, 2 prs drawers; Mrs Giles Hales 1 pr pants, 1 flannel shirt, 1 neck comfort; Miss Elizabeth Vann 1 pr pants, 1 vest, 1 flannel shirt, 1 neck comfort, 2 prs socks, 1 pr drawers; Mrs Duncan Bedsole 1 shirt, 2 prs socks; Mrs Calvin Blake 1 coat, 1 vest, 1 shirt, 1 pr pants; 1 pr drawers, 1 pr socks, 1 pr gloves, 1 quilt; Mrs James Graham 1 quilt, 1 pr pants, 1 pr socks, 1 pr gloves; Mrs Evander Kelly 1 blanket; Mrs Flora Riddle 1 blanket, 1 pr socks; Mrs Mary A Steadman 1 quilt, 2 prs socks; Miss Jane Riddle 2 prs socks, 2 prs gloves, 2 neck comforts; Mrs Christian Ferguson 1 blanket, 2 prs socks, 1 pr gloves, 1 pr pants, 1 neck comfort; Mrs Daniel Ferguson 1 pr pants, 1 vest, 2 prs socks; Mrs James Pearce 1 blanket, 2 prs pants, 2 prs drawers, 2 shirts, 2 prs socks; Mrs Arch'd Smith 1 blanket, 1 quilt, 1 pr pants, 1 pr gloves, 2 shirts, 2 neck comforts, 1 pr drawers, 1 pr socks; Arch'd Smith 1 pr shoes; Mrs Elizabeth Riddle 2 prs socks, 2 prs gloves, 1 hat; Mrs Norman Ferguson 1 shirt, 1 pr pants, 2 prs socks; Mrs Green Thomas 2 prs socks; Mrs Gastin Thompson 1 comfort; Hugh Leach 1 pr shoes; Mrs Hugh Leach 2 prs socks, 1 pr jeans pants; Martin Leach 1 pr shoes, Mrs Martin Leach 1 blanket, 2 prs socks; Mrs Alex McDonald 1 quilt, 1 pr socks; Mrs Garret Thompson 1 pr socks; Mrs Effie McIver 1 pr socks; Miss Effie McIver 1 neck comfort; Mrs Murdoch Ferguson 1 quilt, 1 pr socks; Mrs James M Cole 1 pr socks; John McF Baker $3; Miss Mary Ann McNeill 1 pr socks; Daniel McKeithan $10; Miss Mary Keith 1 blanket, 2 prs socks; Miss Margaret Keith 2 prs socks; Mrs Daniel P Cameron 1 pr pants, 2 flannel shirts, 1 pr socks, 1 pr gloves; Mrs Neill Thompson 1 pr socks; Mrs Alex Johnson 1 pr socks; Mrs James Worthy 1 blanket, 2 pr socks; Mrs T W Cole 1 quilt, 2 prs socks; Mrs Nancy McNeill 1 blanket, worth $6; Miss Jemima Rogers 1 pr pants, worth $2; Allen J McDonald 1 pr shoes, worth $5; Miss Kate Shaw 1 quilt, worth $8; Mrs Effy Evans 1 quilt, worth $1; Mrs John B McIver 4 yds jeans, worth $4 per yard; Miss Mary Rhodes 4 prs socks, worth 80 cts; Miss Lucretia Rhodes 8 yds jeans, worth $3 per yard, 5 prs socks, worth $1 20; Miss Margaret Kelly 1 blanket, worth $5, 1 pr socks; Mrs Margaret Medlin 1 pr socks, worth 40 cts.

MARTIN LEACH, Capt.

THE NORTH CAROLINA SOLDIERS.

One of the Northern newspaper correspondents, who professes to be booked up upon matters and things in the South, undertakes to assert that the gallant soldiers of North Carolina are suspected of being less loyal to the Southern cause than the soldiers of other Southern States, and to have some secret hankerings after the old yankee Union.

This is only a Yankee libel. Its motive is as manifest as its malice, and it can impose upon no one but the half knaves and half fools by whom it was invented. It is part and parcel of an insidious scheme which the Yankees have long been laboring at, to sow the seeds of jealousy and distrust in the minds of a portion of our people, and to distract and divide by those acts those whom they cannot conquer by their arms. They pay a sorry compliment to the intelligence of North Carolina when they expect to deceive them by such shallow artifices, and reflect still more grossly upon their magnanimity and patriotism. We profess to be as well informed at least as any Yankee newspaper upon men and things in the South, and it is news to us that the soldiers of North Carolina, or of any other Southern State, are looked upon with distrust and jealousy by their Southern compatriots. On the contrary, we have never heard but one voice, and that of unqualified and enthusiastic admiration, of the sacrifices and heroism which North Carolina has manifested in this war. From the field of Bethel to the battle of Fredericksburg the soldiers of North Carolina have stood in the front ranks, and reaped laurels as bright and imperishable as ever crowned human brows. In saying this we give utterance to the unanimous opinion of their gallant brethren in arms, and of the whole Southern community. It would suit the base cunning of the Yankees to alienate North Carolina, if they could, by making her believe that she is not appreciated by other Southern States; but a sensible people cannot be imposed upon by such shallow trickery. They will ask why North Carolina should be looked down upon; why she who has been surpassed by no other State in self-sacrifice and heroism, should be singled out as the object of distrust and contempt? Knowing that she has never given reason for such disparagement, and that there is no ground upon which it can be based, they will scout the idea, not only as a libel upon themselves, but upon their heroic comrades who, side by side, have mingled their blood with their own upon every battle-field of the Confederacy. As for North Carolina, or any other Southern State, yearning after an alliance with these Yankees, who have committed every conceivable outrage upon her property and people, it is a simple absurdity. It is a monstrous insult, added to the cruel wrongs which she has already suffered at their hands, to represent her as eager to kiss the hand of the despoilers and ravishers who have darkened her homes and defiled her soil. The Yankees must be reduced to desperation when they resort to such expedients to sustain their sinking fortunes. If they really doubt the loyalty of North Carolinians to the Southern cause, let them observe their conduct upon the next battle-field. They will then receive from the proper source the proper answer to their malignant libels.

Rich'd Dispatch.

[This whole thing is less a yankee than a Southern libel. It grows out of the course pursued towards North Carolina by the Richmond Enquirer, aided by a few papers of like stamp in North Carolina. Instead of giving their whole energies to the war, and laboring to keep us a united people, so that the war may be prosecuted with the utmost energy, they are looking forward *to the next elections*, and to the success of *party*, and for that purpose are engaged in the unpatriotic business of endeavoring to throw suspicion upon the prominent men of North Carolina, the fathers of the men who are in the field fighting with unsurpassed bravery. Between these fathers and sons there is no shadow of difference. All are alike determined to resist the common enemy to the death. And their maligners in North Carolina know this well enough, whether the Enquirer does or not; but every thing must give way to their determination to *carry the next elections*. They might as well cast straws against the wind.—OBSERVER.]

Governor Vance, as far as he has shown himself since his inauguration, has proved to be a first-rate Governor. Even those who denounced him as totally unfit for the place—said he was only a jester and clever crossroads politician, without the ability and the dignity befitting the high office his friends sought to confer on him—and worked and voted against him, have since come out in his favor, and heaped praises upon him without measure. He is therefore admitted by *all* to be a Governor eminently worthy of the high position which he so worthily fills. And now, who are entitled to the credit of having discovered the fitness of this excellent citizen for the office of Governor, and to having called him to fill it? It was not *party*—neither old democratic nor old whig. Who was it then? It was the act of the unbridled, unshackled People, who, in the exercise of their good sense, rose above party and by an unheard-of majority put the right man in the right place! Governor Vance is not, therefore, under the slightest obligation to any man or party for his position. The *people*—the *People*—*People*—without regard to party, were guided, under the providence of a merciful God, to select him; and to them alone is he responsible. His position is the proudest, most creditable of any who has filled his chair within the last fifty years. His predecessors, for a term of years beyond the memory of those who live and vote now, were more or less indebted to *party* for their elevation; and nine times out of ten they were partizan Governors. But here is a man who from his high position may curl the lip of scorn and contempt at the miserable little dogs of party that yelp and whine around him. He has a higher, nobler, grander, mission than to listen either to their hypocritical and designing blandishments, or to regard their petty malice. May he have the wisdom and the grace of Heaven enabling him to act his part like a faithful public servant unto the end.—*Salisbury Watchman.*

Battle of Williamsburg.—It will be recollected (says the Raleigh Standard,) that blame was attached to the 23d N. C. Regiment and its Colonel, Col. John F. Hoke, for its failure at the battle near Williamsburg, to support Col. McRae in the fatal attack which he made upon a battery by which the brave and gallant 5th N. C. was horribly decimated. Col. McRae's report also, we believe, reflected upon that regiment.

The Charlotte Bulletin produces a report from Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, of that battle, which exonerates Col. Hoke and the 23d from blame. In justice, therefore, to Col. Hoke and his regiment, we annex an extract from that report:

HEADQUARTERS HILL'S DIVISION, 25th DEC'R, 1862.

"In the battle of Williamsburg, it was the intention of Gen. Longstreet to gain the rear of the Yankee battery on our left flank, by passing through the woods. It was never intended to make a front attack upon it through an open field. I ordered Col. John F. Hoke, commanding the 23d N. C. Regiment, and another regiment (38th Virginia,) to clear the woods of the enemy's skirmishers. *This was done very handsomely*, and had it not been done, the regiment advancing over the field would have been exposed to a flank fire all the way. D. H. HILL, Maj. Gen.

Two English steamers, the Douro and the Granite City, with full cargoes, arrived this morning in a Confederate port.—*Wilmington Journal*, 26th.

IS PEACE DESIRABLE?

Every one says it is. We are fighting for peace. But we can have no peace unless it comes to us as a self-governing free people. How shall we obtain it? By resting on our arms? By desertion, and straggling, and all kinds of expedients to avoid service? By waiting for the Northwest to secede from the Northeast? By depending on foreign intervention? Fellow-citizens, soldiers, these are not the roads to peace. We shall obtain this great blessing only when we shall have thoroughly defeated the enemy at all points, and endured the privations, the losses, and the sufferings of war until that enemy shall have despaired of success. This is the road to peace. There seems to be no other road to it. What then? Let the people hold up the hands of our Generals, and let every soldier be at the post of duty. If our enemies should fail at all points during the next three months, they will begin seriously to consider that their task is a most difficult, if not an impossible one. Opposition to the war in the North is certainly increasing. There can be no doubt that a large portion of Lincoln's armies and of the Northern people are tired of the war. They want peace as much as we do. Continued defeats for the next three months must tell powerfully on their feelings and judgments. Many of them—perhaps a majority, are opposed to fighting to free the slaves. They regard such a policy as changing the character of the war. They look upon it also as fraught with incalculable misery to both races in both sections. The madness and folly of Lincoln in this respect are operating in our favor. Now is the time to present one compact front at every point. We can lose nothing by it, but on the contrary we may gain everything. We repeat, if our enemies should fail at all points for the next three months, that failure must tend to a cessation of hostilities, or to an armistice, which will be a long step towards peace. But what if they should succeed? The war will be prolonged, and our sufferings will be increased tenfold. Starvation will be added to the horrors which would follow in the train of their triumphant forces.

We believe that we have enough regiments in the field, if they are kept well filled. We must have men to cultivate our fields, and men to fight. Let the former make every grain of corn and every pound of meat they can, and let the latter, to a man, rally to their regiments. Let no soldier so act as to have it thrown up to him hereafter, that he was a deserter or an outlier. * * * We repeat, we must fight. There is no other way to peace but by submission to Abraham Lincoln. Who thinks of that? Are we ready to swear allegiance to *his* government? It is not the government it was, but a rank and bloody usurpation. Our people will not be *forced* to do any thing. They will decide their own destiny. It is true, no one can foresee the end of the struggle. It may end in the ruin of every North American State; but if we are true to ourselves, to our ancestors, and to our children, we at least in North-Carolina will never call any section or any man master. But Providence permits no mortal to foresee events. He shows us our duty, and if we perform it, events will take care of themselves. *Duty, duty, duty,*—let us all do that. We can do no otherwise, and be true men. We appeal to our gallant soldiers who are absent, to hasten to their colors. They will be unjust to their own reputation, and unjust to their comrades who impatiently await their return, if they linger longer. Peace is to be desired above all earthly blessings, but it can be reached only through blood and suffering. To your posts, then, soldiers. You are the country's hope. Every privation you submit to, and every blow you strike, brings us that much nearer to blessed peace.—*Raleigh Standard.*

The Exemption Bill.—The Exemption bill was passed by the Senate, yesterday. As it is quite lengthy, and has to undergo the revision of the House of Representatives, we deem it unnecessary to occupy space by publishing it in full. Its provisions differ from those of the act of last session in several particulars. The clause relative to the exemption of those unfit for service in the field provides that their bodily incapacity shall be "ascertained by a surgeon of the army who is not a resident of the part of the country from which those he is called upon to examine may have come." It also provides that persons so examined and declared unfit for duty "shall not be afterwards subject to be again examined and enrolled." How many times have they been examined already?

The clause exempting the judicial and executive officers of the State Governments specifically exempts the Judges of the Supreme, District, Superior, Circuit and Probate Courts, the Chancellors of State Courts, and Sheriffs, and excludes Justices of the Peace.

Persons appointed by the officers of the Executive Departments, since the 16th April, 1862, and who were liable to military service when appointed, are excluded from exemption.

Presidents or conductors of any railroad company or train, who fail, neglect, or refuse to furnish seats or drinking water to sick and wounded soldiers, not to be exempted.

"One editor of each newspaper now being published and such journeymen printers, engineers, pressmen, stenographic reporters and mailing clerks as the editor or proprietor thereof may certify upon oath to be indispensable for conducting the publication, are to be exempted.

Manufacturers of various classes specified, are exempted on condition that the manufactured articles shall be sold at a net profit not exceeding *thirty* per cent. per annum on the net capital invested.

For the police of slaves, one person on each farm or plantation, the sole property of a minor, a person of unsound mind, a *femme sole*, or a person absent from home in the military or naval service of the Confederacy, on which there are twenty or more slaves. On any farm on which resides a family of white women and children, not less than ten in number, who are dependent for support and protection on the labor and presence of a white man, and on which there is no white male adult not liable to military duty, or male minor or minors capable of working said farm, there shall be exempted one person as laborer.

These are the principal changes made in the Exemption Act passed at the last session.

Rich'd Whig.

Wages of Seamstresses.—We learn, with much satisfaction, that Qr. Master Wilson, of the Clothing Department in this city, has arranged a scale of prices to increase the pay of the females who make up the garments, and that it only requires the approval of the Acting Adjutant General to be carried into effect. We know that Gov. Vance and Capt. Wilson have been in favor of the increase for some time.—*Raleigh Standard.*

Investing in Confederate Bonds.—There seems to be now a great rage for investing in Confederate bonds. Everybody is buying bonds—that is, everybody who has the Treasury notes wherewith to buy. How great the contrast! Here our people are seeking Confederate Government paper. In Lincolndom everybody is avoiding Government paper, and paying enormous prices for every article which will enable them to get rid of Yankee "promises to pay." This is one of the best signs of the times.—*Chas. Mercury.*

At the battle of Fredericksburg, as stated by a Senator in a late debate, one hundred and eighty North Carolinians marched for miles, through *ice and snow* and fought *barefoot.*

WAR NEWS.

Capture of the Yankee Iron-Clad Steamer Indianola.—RICHMOND, Feb. 26th.—The following official despatches have been received to-day:

VICKSBURG, Feb. 25, 1863.—I have the honor to report, after a severe and hot engagement, the capture of the Federal iron-clad steamer Indianola, Lieut. comd'g Brown, U. S. N., together with all her officers and crew, by the Confederate States steamers Queen of the West and Webb, forming an expedition sent out by me for that purpose, under command of Maj. J. L. Brent. The prize is a good deal damaged.

R. TAYLOR, Maj. Gen. Comd'g.

VICKSBURG, Feb. 25.—To Gen. S. Cooper. The expedition fitted up at Red River and Port Hudson, captured the Iron-clad gunboat Indianola, at 11

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 2, 1863.

ANOTHER IRON-CLAD YANKEE CAPTURED!—Our gallant men in the Southwest are performing glorious deeds. Not getting a chance at the yankee army, they are using up the navy. See the account of the latest achievement. The Indianola was a "new Monitor gunboat," as described by the yankees, which had safely run past the Vicksburg batteries on the night of the 10th.

It is a notable circumstance that both the yankee iron-clads that have passed our batteries at Vicksburg have fallen into our hands, and that the one first captured, (the Queen of the West,) was used in capturing the second. We hope the yankees will send a few more in the same direction.

THE YANKEE CONSCRIPTION.—Some of the Southern papers look upon the bill which has passed one branch of the Lincoln Congress, and is likely to pass the other, making every man between 20 and 45 liable to conscription, as a formidable obstacle to peace. We do not. We regard it, rather, as a measure calculated to facilitate that event. Heretofore the yankee soldiers have come generally from the lower classes of the people, those who could be spared without much regret, many of whom, indeed, were a happy riddance. But a law calling for everybody, high and low, rich and poor, the merchant and the loafer, will present an altogether different case, and if Lincoln shall attempt to carry it into effect, there will be a universal objection. The war will be more odious than ever. The peace party will be recruited to millions.

Let nobody be alarmed. The law will never be enforced.

BAD FEELING.—We have received more than one communication from the army of similar tendency to the one which, with some hesitation, we have admitted to-day. We allude to that signed L. H. W. We take the liberty to leave blank the name of the county, which the author had written; for we prefer that his remarks should have that general application which facts justify, and not a mere local one. We think it right to let the public see what a bitter feeling exists—and exists extensively too—in the army on the matter complained of; for it may lead to thought and a change of conduct on the part of those unpatriotic people who grind the faces of the poor without considering that there may be a day of reckoning here as well as hereafter.

It is too sadly true that extortion is the order of the day. There are a few honorable exceptions, here and there, but they are so few as to be named individually. And with the extortioner, who has allowed his soul to dwell only upon the size of the "almighty dollar," it matters little whether the purchaser of what he has to sell be a soldier's wife or mother, or a rich man who is able to pay any price for even the luxuries of life. But our correspondent is decidedly behind the times when he complains of "Ten dollars for four bushels of corn"—that is only a little more than half of what would be charged here.

Whilst admitting the existence of that bad feeling in the army, and seriously fearing that it will lead to great trouble when the soldiers return to their homes, it is proper to remind the suffering subjects of such extortion, that there is a vast deal done in every county, and we have no doubt in every neighborhood in the State, to relieve the necessities of the soldiers' families. In this county, for instance, we think that the public and private contributions to such purposes have amounted to a hundred thousand dollars. No call has been unheeded. No known suffering has been allowed. It was only last week, for instance, that it was stated that the house of a widow of one of the fallen soldiers from this place was to be sold for a mortgage upon it made by him before he went into the army. A call upon our citizens at once resulted in a subscription sufficient to pay the debt and leave the widow and orphans in possession of their comfortable domicil. This is no isolated case. Such acts could probably be mentioned of almost any town or neighborhood in the State. If they could not they ought to be; for no amount of kindness within the means of those who are permitted to stay at home, is too great to bestow upon the glorious soldiers themselves who suffer and bleed in the common defence, or upon the wives and little ones whom they have left at home, relying upon the patriotism and humanity of the exempts and the wealthy to see that they do not suffer in the absence of their natural protectors.

We submit this view in the hope that it will have its influence upon such sensible men in the army as H. L. W., and indeed upon all men in the army, and may tend to moderate that feeling, which, if indulged, may lead to collisions when the gallant soldiers return to their homes, and when, with the victors' wreath upon their brows, and welcomed as the achievers, under God, of the Independence of their country, other and more noble thoughts should possess them than the taking into their own hands of that vengeance which God has said is His, and not man's.

A SLIGHT MISTAKE.—The chief organ of the new party recently organized at Raleigh, says, among other queer things,—

"If secession was wrong in December 1860, it was wrong in May 1861. Nothing had occurred between those periods to alter the condition of the South or change the policy of the North."

As to secession, we have nothing to say, for we agree that secession, [especially so called *peaceable secession*,] is wrong at all times. Revolution is the word and the thing, when wrongs become unendurable. But as to nothing having occurred between December 1860 and May 1861, we think that a slight mistake. We have some recollection of a certain proclamation issued by one Abraham Lincoln on the 16th of April 1861, that did very materially alter the condition of the South, for it converted the whole people of several of the States, including North Carolina, into thorough anti-union men.

CONSCRIPTION OF STAGE DRIVERS.—We are surprised to learn that the drivers on mail stages are supposed not to be exempt from conscription, and that those on the line from this place to Raleigh are about to be forced into the army. If they should be, we are not surprised to hear that the contractors will be obliged to throw up their contract, for it is manifest that old men are not capable of performing the severe service of drivers on a line which is altogether in the night, and exposed to the severest weather. Few men over 40 are fit for drivers, and fewer still can stand the exposure of a night line. We trust that if not exempted by law, they will be by the Secretary of War, for it would be a public calamity to have the mail, or even the stage, stopped between Raleigh and this place.

THE SUPPLY OF FOOD.—An intelligent subscriber in Moore county writes to us that he was about to reply to the statement of a correspondent who wrote that he had passed through Moore county and found plenty of provisions for the present year and hands enough left to make plenty for the next, but found another person had done so. He says, "This is far from being correct in regard to the western part of Moore. There is not enough meat and bread if fairly distributed to prevent suffering, and the price is so high that many will feel extreme want before the close of the year."

CORRECTION.—In the 16th line of the communication in reply to Judge Pearson (first under the Editorial head of Thursday's paper and on the first page of to-day's Weekly paper,) the word "line" was improperly inserted by the proof corrector. It has no business there.

'A Soldier," giving no name, and stating things that ought not to be published without a known and responsible name, cannot be published.

CONGRESS.—The following is the vote in the Senate on the Exemption Bill:—

Yeas.—Messrs. Baker, Barnwell, Brown, Burnett, Caperton, Clark, Davis, Dortch, Haynes, Henry, Hunter, Maxwell, Oldham, Orr, Peyton, Semmes, Sparrow, Wigfall, Yancey.

Nays.—Messrs. Hill, Mitchell, Johnson of Georgia, and Simms.

The House has yet to act on the bill.

In the House on Wednesday, Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill to lay taxes for the common defence and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States. Ordered to be printed, and made the special order of the day for Monday next.

The bill to provide for the arrest of soldiers absent without leave, was laid on the table (rejected) 61 to 31. It contained some odious provisions, and the present laws were deemed sufficient.

On Thursday, the Senate was engaged upon a bill to regulate impressments of private property. In the House nothing of importance. Both Houses had secret sessions.

On Friday, nothing of importance was done in the open session of either House.

THE MOTE IN HIS BROTHER'S EYE.—A writer in the Greensboro' Patriot complains very bitterly of the factories (up in his part of the State we suppose) for bartering their yarns for corn at $2 a bushel, and bacon at 37½ cents a lb, whilst those articles are worth, he says, $5 a bushel and 75 cents to $1 a lb., by which, he says, "one bunch of yarn, paid for in corn, will cost me $10.00, or 10 pounds of bacon, equal to $8 or $10.00 in money." What makes corn worth $5 a bushel, and bacon 75 to $1? Speculation and extortion, of course. The same things would make cotton yarns worth $10. So the man who thus exchanges corn or bacon for yarns upon those terms is not wronged.

We suppose that the factories making such barters do it for the benefit of the operatives in their mills—so as to save them from the enormous shave of such complainants as wish to sell their corn at five prices, ($5,) and get their yarn at only three prices, ($3 25 to 3 75.) As we have said, *he* is not wronged by the operation But if the factories make such exchanges and then sell the corn and bacon, either to their operatives or others, at the extortionate prices of $5 and 75 to $1, they are clearly guilty of an evasion of the law, and of bad faith to those who, in the Convention at Greensboro', entered into the arrangement with them, for the purpose of setting an example of compliance with the law and of moderation in profits. In the last particular, we regret to say, the example has been utterly thrown away upon the public. No other class followed the lead, and few appreciated the sacrifice of fortune which the manufacturers made.

Down here, we have reason to know, such exchanges have not been for the benefit of the proprietors but of the operatives in the factories.

On this subject, the following letter, which we copy from the State Journal, puts the factories in this part of the State in a fair position, except that Mr. Mallett might have gone further and said, that some of them are selling corn for $1 less per bushel and bacon at 20 cents less per lb., than they sell for in the streets of Fayetteville:

FAYETTEVILLE, Feb. 24.

John Spelman, Esq:—Sir: In your editorial of the 23d, you make the following remarks: "We understand that many of the cotton factories have invented a system of dealing by which they effectually evade the provision of the conscript law against extortion, and more surely oppress the poor. They are beginning to refuse their goods for money and sell them only for produce. Thus they hoard large quantities of grain and other articles of prime necessity, intending to run the price of them to an enormous figure."

My dear sir, you are entirely misinformed with regard to the cotton factories of this county, with all of which I am well acquainted. There is not one which is selling exclusively for produce. They are, it is true, exchanging some of their goods for produce; not with the intention which you charge upon them, but for the purpose of keeping their operatives supplied at the lowest possible rates. Some of the mills I know, (and others I believe do the same,) sell provisions to the operatives by the retail at wholesale prices, and others I know, who do not sell produce of any kind, allow their operatives, independent of wages, additional means of meeting the high price of provisions. Most of the factories I know, and I believe others are doing the same, are selling their productions daily for much less than they would bring in the market, and less than is daily offered—selling to the poor and those around at retail for the same price that is paid at the wholesale.

With this explanation, I trust you will correct the error you have fallen into. Yours respect'y,

C. P. MALLETT, Mallett's Mill.

SOUND VIEWS.—The Richmond Examiner places in a just light the Northern idea of re-union between the North and the South. The thing is not to be thought of:

"The Northern Democrats ask now, (says the Examiner,) that, with the frivolity of children, the two communities should ignore the past, should treat the tremendous events of the last forty years as trifles; and with a debt of two or three billions of dollars incurred in mutual slaughter, should shake the bloody hands of each other and be brethren once more. The thing is not possible. It would be barbarous, corrupt and wicked. Who but brutes could shake hands and be friends with the slayers of brothers and companions? Probably half a million of men on both sides have fallen as victims in this frightful war. Are each community to throw off the habiliments of mourning, to forget their dead, and revel in mutual amity over the graves of the slain? The spectacle would disgust the world; Heaven would be shocked at the horrible impiety of the scene.

"Honorable peace is always to be desired. War should not be prolonged one moment from mere sentiments of revenge. But political union and social amity with the slayers of hundreds of thousands of our countrymen, would be an indecency revolting to every virtuous, pious and chivalrous instinct of human nature."

DEATHS OF SOLDIERS.—At his home, in Harnett Co., on the 8th of Feb'y 1863, Private Daniel Smith, in the 44th year of his age. He was a member of Capt. K. J. Braddy's Co., 36th Reg't.

He was much beloved by all who knew him. His family have the heartfelt sympathy of the whole company.—COM.

At Fort Fisher, on the morning of the 16th of Feb'y 1863, private Enoch Ellis of Robeson county, in the 24th year of his age. He was a member of Capt. K. J. Braddy's Company, 36th Reg't. He was one of its worthiest members, much esteemed by all who knew him. His family may be assured that they are not the only ones who mourn his loss.—COM.

At the residence of his Father, in Richmond county, on the 12th inst., Serg't James W. Long a member of Co. D, 23d Reg't, aged 28 years and 7 months.

In Richmond, 11th November last, Mr. Asa Brown, aged about 27 years, a member of the Orange Guards, Co G, 27th Reg't.

Near Fredericksburg, 19th Jan'y, David H Correll, of Rowan county, in his 21st year, of Capt W B Clement's company, 10th Reg't Virginia cavalry.

In Charlottesville, Va, 13th Jan'y, of typhoid pneumonia, Jas L Steadman, of Henderson county, a member of Co G, 35th Reg't.

Killed by the falling of a tree, in his 23d year, Capt Shelton Hobgood, of Co D, 12th Reg't.

In the Small Pox Hospital at Danville, Va, Dr Latney J Montague, of Granville county, a member of Co G, 23d Reg't.

Near Grenada, Miss, 24th Dec'r, in the 22d year of his age, Jacob Fisk, of Co E, 1st Reg't Tennessee cavalry: and in one of the battles before Richmond, Wm Wiley, of the 14th N C Reg't, sons of Rev J S Weaver of North Carolina.

In hospital at Murfreesboro', Tenn, 28th Dec, Serg't E M Roberts, in his 28th year, of the 60th Reg't, from Buncombe county.

In hospital at Richmond, 8th July, of a wound received on the 1st, Columbus V Barnett, aged 26, of the 25th Reg't.

In hospital at Tullahoma, Tenn, on 6th Jan'y, John J Dingler, and about the 30th, Z B Blackwell, members of Co A, 60th Reg't.

In hospital at Murfreesboro', Tenn, Dec'r 14, Thos Parker, aged 36, and on the 15th, John Plemmons, aged 24, members of the 60th Reg't.

In hospital near Richmond, July 11, of wounds, F W Jones, in his 23d year, from Buncombe county, a member of Capt Gudger's Co, 14th Reg't.

In Chimborazo Hospital, Richmond, on 18th Jan'y, Alfred N. Paul, of Co. G, 37th Reg't.

PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT.

It is meet that, as a people who acknowledge the supremacy of the living God, we should be ever mindful of our dependence on Him; should remember that to Him alone can we trust for our deliverance; that to Him is due devout thankfulness for the signal mercies be stowed on us, and that by prayer alone can we hope to secure the continued manifestation of that protecting care which has hitherto shielded us in the midst of trials and dangers.

In obedience to His precepts, we have from time to time gathered together with prayers and thanksgiving, and he Has been graciously pleased to hear our supplications, and to grant abundant exhibitions of His favor to our armies and our people. Through many conflicts we have now attained a place among the nations which commands their respect; and to the enemies who encompass us around and seek our destruction, the Lord of Hosts has again taught the lesson of His inspired word; that the battle is not to the strong, but to whomsoever He willeth to exalt.

Again our enemy, with loud boasting of the power of their armed men and mailed ships, threaten us with subjugation, and with evil machinations seek, even in our own homes and at our own firesides, to pervert our men-servants and our maid-servants into accomplices of their wicked designs.

Under these circumstances it is my privilege to invite you once more to meet together and to prostrate yourselves in humble supplication to Him who has been our constant and never failing support in the past, and to whose protection and guidance we trust for the future.

To this end I, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, do issue this, my proclamation, setting apart Friday, the twenty-seventh day of March, as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer, and I do invite the people of the said States to repair on that day to their usual places of public worship, and to join in prayer to Almighty God that He will continue His merciful protection over our cause, that He will scatter our enemies and set at naught their evil designs, and that He will graciously restore to our beloved country the blessings of peace and security.

In faith whereof I have hereunto set my hand at the city of Richmond on the twenty-seventh day of February, in the year of our Lord 1863.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

By the President,
J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

Army Correspondence of the Savannah Republican.

RICHMOND, Feb. 18.

The Federal authorities have declined to act upon the Emporor's suggestion, and in so doing, in effect refused to treat with the Confederate Government upon any terms short of an abandonment on its part of the contest. Under these circumstances, what course is Louis Napoleon likely to pursue? He must either give up all idea of pacification or follow out his policy to its logical sequences, and recognize our independence. Which of these alternatives will he adopt?

The answer to this question *may*—I do not say *does*—depend upon the action of the Confederate Government upon a proposition which there is reason to believe has very recently been submitted to it. Of the exact nature of this proposition I am not informed, but am led to believe it has some reference to the French occupation of Mexico. Under the supposition, though without the knowledge, that such is the case, the question occurs whether it would be to our interest to accept recognition at the hands of France, coupled with the raising of the blockade and the use of the French navy, and perhaps an alliance, offensive and defensive as regards this continent, upon condition of our abstaining, now and hereafter, from all interference with the Emperor's plans in Mexico.

Without undertaking to discuss so grave a matter as this, with the limited information at my command, I cannot refrain from expressing the hope, that the idea of future acquisitions of territory from Mexico will have no influence whatsoever upon our government in coming to a resolution. The free gift of the whole of Mexico would be a curse rather than a blessing, if we were required to accept its mongrel population along with it. These wretched people are the vile amalgam resulting from the indiscriminate cohabitation of the Spaniard, the Indian, and the negro, and they partake of all the vices of each of those races, without any of its virtues. In addition to this, the inhabitants are as bitterly opposed to our system of labor as the people of New England. The supremacy, therefore, of the French, or of any other race, except the Puritan, could hardly be a disadvantage to other nations.

What we need is a homogeneous population, a compact territory, and uniform institutions. We have territory enough already, and what we have would be all the better if it were differently shaped and bounded. Let us rather improve what we have, restrict the elective franchise and the right to hold real estate to the people, and their descendants, who were living in the Confederate States at the beginning of the war, and those who have adhered to our cause and assisted in the establishment of our independence, and discourage immigration from all countries, especially the United States, not having similar institutions to our own. Do this, and we shall have a house not founded on sand, or divided against itself. As between Mexico and the States of the North-west, one might well be excused for preferring the latter. Indeed, a re-union with the North-west is not without its advocates here, amongst whom may be numbered some of the ablest men in the country.

But to return from this digression: The refusal to accept the suggestion of Louis Napoleon, argues great ignorance of the strength and resolution of the Confederate States on the part of the Federal Government, or a strong desire to provoke the intervention of foreign Powers. In the latter event, Mr. Lincoln may hope to keep his people united, prevent any further secession of States, and preserve the dignity of his Government, even while conceding our independence under the pressure from other nations.

The government, it is said, has received from Europe within the last two months, two millions yards of military cloth, or enough to furnish a suit to every man in the army. But this should not stop the spinning wheels and looms at home. One suit of clothes will last a soldier who has to march in such weather as this, and to fight in the woods and swamps, and on rugged mountains, but a short time. The last remaining hope our enemies have of subjugating us, is based upon our (supposed) limited supply of food and clothing. If the men will furnish the former, there need be no doubt that the women will provide the latter.

P. W. A.

Southern Money at the North.—Southern money is "looking up" in the North. At Louisville the notes for the old Tennessee banks are taken at par, and other Southern currency is discounted at the rate of from 10 to 20 per cent., "which," says the Louisville Journal of the 16th, "is a decided improvement in that description of paper." The same paper says there have even been transactions in Confederate scrip in Louisville during the past week, at from 40 to 50 cents on the dollar, parties from Memphis and other Southern points appearing in the market. This, says the Chattanooga Rebel, is certainly a hopeful indication. Southern speculators, after that, should be ashamed to depreciate their own currency, when it seems in such high favor with the North.

Counterfeit.—We have in our possession a fifty cent shin plaster purporting to have been issued by the Greensboro' Mutual Life Insurance and Trust Company, signed by "B. F. Tatam," Treasurer. From the care taken in the execution of this bill, being printed in a very good style and on good paper, we opine a great many of them are in circulation. The genuine bills are printed in three colors on Buff-colored paper signed by D. P. Weir, Treasurer, while the spurious bill above mentioned, is printed in one color (black) on white paper.—*Greensboro' Patriot.*

LATEST WAR NEWS.

A Skirmish in Culpeper.—RICHMOND, Feb. 28.—We understand that Col. Fitzhugh Lee had a spirited skirmish with the enemy in front of our lines in Culpeper on last Thursday, and succeeded in routing them and capturing 150 prisoners. The affair is represented to have been boldly and gallantly executed. The enemy's loss is supposed to have been quite heavy, while our forces suffered comparatively little—but one killed and some three or four wounded. The prisoners were expected down last night, but failed to arrive. The accounts from our front represent our men on the alert, and prepared for any movement the enemy may attempt. *Examiner.*

Reported Yankee Fight.—ATLANTA, GEO., Feb. 27.—In the absence of authentic and reliable news, we give the following, which we took down in almost the exact words of the relator. We have received the Shelbyville Banner, of the 22d, published previous to the time the occurrence is said to have happened:

Private J. B. Johnson, Co. K, 2d Kentucky Regiment, says on Sunday last, about 6 o'clock A. M., a heavy firing of cannon was heard in the direction of the enemy's line, six or eight miles this side of Murfreesboro'. From the report which the cannons made, it was judged they were charged with balls and shells. Mr. Johnson timed the firing, and it lasted 2 hours and 15 minutes. A deserter soon after came in and related the cause of the firing. This deserter said that the Republicans and Democrats in the Federal army became engaged in a dispute about the holding of the Convention in Louisville, Ky.; and from words the parties went to blows with the fist; thence to pistols and muskets; when finally, Rosecrans ordered out artillery to quell the disturbance. Two divisions of the Federal army thus became engaged and fought each other for the length of time specified above with cannon. 250 were killed, and a large number wounded. We give the report for what it is worth, hoping it may prove true.—*Intelligencer.*

The Situation in Tennessee.—Our latest advices from Tennessee state that Rosecrans had advanced as far as Middleton, half way between Murfreesboro' and Shelbyville. The Chattancoga Rebel says of this news, and of the two armies:—

This is hardly a premeditated advance in force. We learn from the Union that the abolition army is completely blockaded by mud. In regard to reinforcements, a gentleman just out of Nashville states that the most accurate calculations assign 15,000 as the outside. According to the private conversation of the Federal officers, their loss at Murfreesboro' in killed, wounded, prisoners and deserters, was 25,000. The enemy is, therefore, less by 10,000 than when he met us on the 31st December. There is no doubt that we are stronger in numbers, and in even better plight as regards what are called the morale of an army. The presence of Gen. Joe Johnston and the admirable energy of Gen. Bragg have bleat two of the happiest influences. Should Rosecrans attack us we are ready to receive him and his ruffians with "open arms and hospitable graves." Among other things it is stated that Gen. Johnston has had a personal interview with every Colonel in the army of Middle Tennessee, and expresses himself highly pleased with the character of the officers thus brought under his personal acquaintance.

From Vicksburg—Immense Fleet gathering off the city.—MOBILE, Feb. 27.—A correspondent of the Memphis Appeal, writing from Vicksburg, 23d inst., says:

An enormous fleet appeared this morning, larger than has been witnessed yet from this point. Everything looks as if preparations were almost ready for the enemy to commence a forward movement. The monster force before this city cannot long remain in idleness.

Persons well acquainted with the country bordering on Yazoo Pass and Coldwater say if the enemy succeed in getting their gunboats in the Coldwater, they will never get out, that an army of 1000 men could hold at bay and destroy an invading force of 50,000 in that country.

Arrival off the Bar.—CHARLESTON, Feb'y 28.—The British steam sloop-of-war Desperate, from Bermuda, touched off the Bar and communicated with Fort Sumter Friday morning.

The officers on board the U. S. man-of-war New Ironsides, in a conversation with the officers of the Desperate, admitted that three of their vessels were missing since the late attack of our iron clads, and that one, a large propeller, had certainly been sunk. This news accords with our already expressed belief that the first accounts of the fight given by the blockaders were not to be relied upon. It is also somewhat remarkable that although we have news from the North up to the 24th inst., so far no mention has yet been made in Northern journals of the arrival at any port of the steamer Mercedita. The fight took place, it will be remembered, on the 31st of January, nearly a month ago. We remain, therefore, firm in our belief that the first statements of the blockaders, in reference to the result of the attack by the Palmetto State and Chicora, were wilfully false, and got up for foreign effect.—*Courier.*

Where the Cavalry are.—At last accounts Van Dorn had crossed the Tennessee river with several thousand cavalry. What he intends to do is not known. He will be heard from in due time.

Morgan's men are busily engaged in harrassing the Federals in the neighborhood of Readsville—have already captured more than 300 prisoners, 30 wagons, and 1000 horses, mules and beef cattle.

Gen. Forrest's command, which formed a portion of the late attacking party on Fort Donelson, has returned to Middle Tennessee.

FREDERICKSBURG, Feb. 27.—It is currently reported that a copy of the New York Times of the 23d inst., contains the intelligence that the Frankfort Convention attempted to meet, as arranged for, and that delegates from Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky, attended; but that Col. Gilbert, commanding at that point, acting under instructions from Washington, refused to allow it to assemble.

The Negro Market.—The mart of the "peculiar institution" was never more active, nor prices more bouyant, than at the present time. At the sale of Messrs. Lee and James yesterday, the prices ranged as follows: Best men 2200 to $2500; fair ditto, 1900 to $2100; best girls 1700 to $1900; fair ditto, 1500 to $1700; fancy girls, 2000 to $2500, according to appearance and qualification; good boys and girls, 10 to 12 years, 1200 to $1400; ditto 12 to 15, 1400 to $1800; good young women and child, 1600 to $1800. There were isolated sales above and below the regular quotations given. One very likely fancy girl (mulatto) brought $2900. The offerings are large, and the demand equally heavy.—*Rich. Ex. 28th.*

Number of Conscripts.—The number of conscripts enrolled in this county, last week, amounts to 165. Those from the 71st Regiment started for Raleigh on Wednesday, and those from the 121st, we learn, will leave on Monday next. A considerable number previously volunteered and are not included in the above.—*Salem P.*

Death in the Stage.—When the stage from High Point arrived here on Thursday morning, the dead body of a soldier was discovered therein, which, upon examination of papers found upon the person, proved to be that of Alexander Nifong, of this county. Mr. Nifong was returning home from the army, sick, and died in the High Point stage about 6 miles from here.—*Salem Press.*

Fire.—We learn that the kitchen and former dwelling of Geo. W. Johnson, Esq., of Farmington, Davie County, was consumed by fire on Saturday night last. The origin of the fire was accidental, and Mr. Johnson's dwelling and barn narrowly escaped the devouring element. Some three hundred bushels of corn were consumed, and the total loss is estimated at 3 or 4,000 dollars.—*Salem Press.*

FOR THE OBSERVER.

The Young Ladies' Knitting Society is under obligations for the following contributions: A friend $2; Mrs Mary H Shaw $2 and 2 prs socks.

The next meeting will be at the residence of Mrs McMillan on Anderson Street.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Donations from the Brooklin Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Society: Mrs J C Lee 2 carpet blankets, 1 pr drawers, 5 prs socks, $3; Mrs B Williams 2 comfortables, 3 prs drawers, 2 shirts, 20 prs socks; B Williams $7; G Williams $11, 1 pr shoes; Mrs G Williams 3 blankets, 2 comfortables, 1 pr pants, 18 prs socks; Mrs F B Floyd $2. 2 prs socks, 1 pr pants; Johnson Floyd $2; Mrs Johnson Floyd 1 pr socks; Mrs Samuel Floyd $4; E G Floyd $5; Forney Prevatt $5; P Peacock $4; A Taylor $2: A Inman $2; R Inman $2; J Inman $1; A Sealy $2; Miss Charity Jenkins $1; Mrs S Walton 7 prs socks; James Walton $1; Miss Eliza Leggette 1 quilt; Mrs Jas P Barnes 1 quilt, 1 pr socks; Miss E Hanes 1 pr socks.

Celebrated "Hand Looms" for Sale.

I NOW offer for sale SIX HAND LOOMS, together with the right for four counties, viz: Robeson, Richmond, Cumberland and Columbus counties. These Looms will weave from 30 to 40 yards of jeans per day. Owing to the fact that I am in service, I am unable to give that attention to them that they require, hence I propose to sell the Looms and right on very accommodating terms.

Persons wishing to purchase either the Looms or Right will call on Col. N. A. McLean, my Agent in Lumberton, who will take pleasure in attending to them.

W. E. HARDIMAN.

Lumberton, Feb'y 26, 1863. 7-3tpd

The French Intrigue in Texas.—The French legation at Washington has seen proper to deny peremptorily that the Emperor has been plotting to separate Texas from the Confederacy, and a correspondent of the New York Tribune, who evidently speaks from knowledge obtained directly from the legation, asserts that the French Government is at present wholly ignorant of what has taken place in reference to this matter. The whole responsibility connected with it falls upon unknown agents and subaltern officers who, desirous of distinguishing themselves, have assumed certain functions unwarranted by their rank and position.

The Columbus Sun notices the establishment of a button factory in that city. It turns out buttons for coats, &c., and machinery is about to be added for the manufactory of hoes and rice buttons.

MARRIED:

In this Town, on the 25th ult., Mr. J. B. WILSON of Fayetteville to Miss MARGARET E. McMILLAN of Bladen county.

On Thursday evening Jan'y 29th, near Laurel Hill, Richmond county, by the Rev. John Monroe, Mr. JAS. A. PATTERSON, and Miss ANNIE McNEILL, all of said county.

On Goshen, Duplin county, N. C., on Tuesday, 24th inst., by Rev. John N. Stallings, DAVID M. McINTIRE, Adj't 38th N. C. Troops, to Miss ANNIE T., daughter of Jesse Swinson, Esq.

On Tuesday, 10th ult., by Rev. Mr. Griffith, at Glenwood, N. C., Mr. JOSEPH WILLIAMS and Miss M. LOU. GLEN, all of Yadkin county.

On 11th Feb., at the residence of the bride's father, by Rev. E. D. Wilson, Mr. THOS. W. JORDAN to Miss JULIETTE C. FAISON, youngest daughter of Col. H. Faison, all of Northampton, N. C.

DIED,

Departed this life, on the evening of the 19th Feb'y, in Wadesborough, at the residence of her husband, Mr. Augustine Shepherd, Mrs. EFFIE SHEPHERD, aged about 73 years.

She has been "gathered to her father's," having the testimony of a good conscience, in the communion of the Catholic Church, in the confidence of a certain faith, in the comfort of a reasonable, religious and holy hope, in favor with God, and in perfect charity with the world."

Mrs. Shepherd was the daughter of Mr. Duncan McLaurin, late of Richmond county. She was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, but was brought to this State in her infancy and resided in Fayetteville till her marriage in the year 1819, when she with her husband removed to Anson county, near Wadesboro'. She had been at that time for some years a member of the Episcopal Church, and was the first and for some time the only member of that Church in Wadesborough. In 1820 when the place was first visited by a Missionary of the Church, she welcomed his coming with gladness and by her earnest, quiet, and Godly conversation aided him in establishing here the Church of her love. Modest and retiring, few knew the extent of her holy influence. For 42 years she has worshipped with this little congregation, always commanding the love and respect of all who knew her, working with untiring industry for the comfort of her husband and children, and reaping the reward of her labors by living to see them all walking in the way they should go. "Her children arise up and call her blessed, her husband also, and he praiseth her."

Com.

Church Intelligencer copy and send bill to Observer office.

At Caledonia, Moore county, 12th ult., JEROME G. BURNS, eldest son of Enoch S. and Mary Ann Burns, aged a little over 4 years. "Suffer little children to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Com.

Suddenly, at his residence near Burgaw Depot, New Hanover county, on the 23d ult., E. E. PIERCE, Sr., aged 64 years 11 months and 6 days.

In Raleigh, on the 24th ult., at the residence of her son, B. H. Norris, Mrs. DORCAS NORRIS, in the 82d year of her age. The deceased was born in Pitt Co., N. C., on the 10th day of February, 1782, but at the time of her death was a citizen of Harnett County. She leaves behind three children and twenty-six grandchildren to mourn their loss. She had been a consistent member of the Primitive Baptist Church for many years.

In Wake County, N. C., on the 18th of February, ROSABELL, an only and lovely daughter of Dr. G. M. and Mary J. Cooley, aged five years, six months and five days.

NOTICE—PERSONS wishing the direction of their papers changed will please be particular to say *from* what Post Office, as well as *to* what Post Office.

Uncurrent Bank Notes, or individual or local Shinplasters, will not be taken, but when received will be held subject to the order of the owner.

Observer Office, March 2.

FAYETTEVILLE MARKET.—March 2.

REVIEW OF THE MARKET.

Bacon 70. Lard 60 to 62½.
Beef 20 to 25 by the side; 15 to 25 at retail.
Butter $1 to 1 25.
Beeswax 70 to 75.
Chickens 35 to 50.
Copperas 1 25 to 1 50 at retail.
Cotton 18 to 20 cts.
Cotton Yarn $4 to $6 per bunch.
Dried Fruit—Apples 12½, peaches 15 to 20.
Eggs 40 to 50 per dozen.
Flour—Family $49, super $46 to $48.
Forage—Fodder 3 25 to 3 50 per hundred; Hay $2; Shucks $2.
Flaxseed 3 50 per bu.
Green Apples $5 to $6 per bushel.
Grain—Corn 4 25. Wheat $6 to $8. Rye $5. Oats 2 25. Peas $4 to $5.
Hides—Green 50, dry $1.
Iron—Swedes 50.
Leather—Sole $3 50 per lb.; Upper $4 to 4 50.
Liquors—Corn Whiskey $20 per gallon; Apple Brandy $20; Peach Brandy $20.
Molasses—N O $6 to $8 per gallon.
Nails—$1 per lb. at retail.
Pork 40.
Onions $6 to $7 per bushel.
Potatoes—Irish $6 to $7 per bu.
Rice, 15 to 17½ by the cask.
Sugar retailing at 85 to $1.
Salt—Sound 12½ to 17½ cents per lb.
Fayetteville Sheetings, 36 to 60 cts. Osnaburgs 40 to 60 cts.
Spirits Turpentine 40 to 50 cts. per gallon.
Tallow 65 to 70. Wool 2 00.

Corrected by PEMBERTON & SLOAN.

WILMINGTON MARKET, Feb. 25

Beef cattle 25 to 30. Bacon, 65 to 70. Butter $1 to $1 50. Corn Meal $3 50. Flour, super $46 to $50. Lard 55 to 60. Molasses $6 to $8. Potatoes, sweet $3. 50; Irish $10. Pork fresh 40 to 45. Pea Nuts $6 75 to $7. Sound Salt $5 to $6 50; Alum $10. Sugar 70 to 80 by hhd. Fayetteville Factory sheetings 65 to 70 Tallow 65 to 70. Wood $6 to $11. Yarn 6 50 to $7.

Eagle Foundry Castings.

A FULL supply constantly on hand and for sale by PEMBERTON & SLOAN.

March 2. 7itf

Factory Goods for Bacon.

I CAN buy a limited supply of Cotton Yarns, Sheeting and Osnaburgs, to be paid for in Bacon. Those wishing to procure these goods of me must deliver Bacon at my Store. W. H. AVERA.

Silverdale, Johnston Co., Feb'y 26. 7*3mpd-csw

A Substitute.

ANY person wishing to hire a Substitute to go into service, can get one on application to A. Davis, St. Paul's P. O., Robeson county, N. C.

March 2, 1tpd

Fine Milch Cow at Auction.

TO-MORROW at 11 A. M., I shall sell a fine Milch Cow, with young Calf.

JOHN H. COOK, Auct.

March 2. 7-1t

NOTICE.

Good Horses Wanted!

HAVING received orders to purchase Horses for the 24 Reg't N. C. Cavalry, I will be at the following places, viz: Fayetteville, March 9th and 10th; Jonesboro', 11th; Carthage, 12th and 13th; Gulf, 14th; Pittsboro', 16th and 17th; Brooks's Cross Roads, 18th; Asheboro', 20th and 21st; Troy, 23d; Albemarle, 25th; Wadesboro', 27th; Rockingham, 28th.

Persons having good horses for sale will confer a favor by meeting me at the above named places.

J. L. BRYAN, Capt. Co. I, 24 R. U. Cavalry.

March 2, 1863. 7-3tpd

Unexampled Success!

S. FIELD AND FIRESIDE,

AUGUSTA, GA.

Best Southern writers contribute to it

POEMS, TALES, NOVELETTES, ORIGINAL LITERATURE.

THE NEW PRIZE STORY BY

Miss S. A. MINER,

Of Covington, Ga., commenced February 7.

Among the distinguished gems which grace the Fireside, are Hon. WM. GILMORE SIMMS, of S. C., Judge MUSE, of Ala., &c.

A series of HISTORICAL ARTICLES, entitled the

"GREAT BATTLES OF ANTIQUITY,"

BY

ARCH'D ARNE McBRYDE,

Of Robeson County, N. C., is also now appearing in the Fireside, the only purely Literary Journal in the South.

Terms: $3 a year, in advance; or to Clubs of Ten, $2.00.

Address, JAMES GARDNER, Proprietor, Augusta, Ga.

March 2. 1tpd

The Rockfish Co. wish to hire

a good Blacksmith. Apply to C. T. HAIGH, Pres't.

March 2, 1863 7-tf

Flat Dutch Cabbage Seed,

For sale by W. N. TILLINGHAST.

Feb'y 28. 7-2t

Headquarters 53d Reg't N. C. M.,
SUMMERVILLE, N. C., Feb'y 27, 1863.

IN pursuance of orders from State and Confederate Headquarters, all men in this Reg't between the ages of 18 and 40 years subject to duty under the Conscription Laws are ordered to meet at the Court House in Lillington, at 12 o'clock on the 9th day of March next.

Those having army discharges are included. The men should come provided with clothing, blankets and six days' rations. Applications for exemption should be filed with the subscriber before or during that day.

Company Commanders will notify those conscripts in their Districts of this order.

J. A. SPEARS,
Col. Comd'g 53d Reg't N. C. M.

1tpd]

NOTICE.

THE undersigned practicing Physicians of the county of Bladen are compelled in *self-defence* to advance their charges for Professional services to double the former rates, except in cases purely surgical. Half yearly settlements must be made or interest will be charged on accounts.

D. B. GILLESPIE, M. D.
A. H. McDONLD, "
L. D. McMANNIN, "
W. A. BIZZELL, "
A. J. SHIPMAN, "
N. GRAHAM, "

March 2. 7*2tpd

$30 REWARD.

Horse and Money Stolen.

STOLEN from the subscriber, on Thursday night the 26th Feb

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE OBSERVER.

RICHMOND, Feb'y 18.

Messrs. Editors:—Yesterday Gens. A. P. Hill and Stuart visited the Virginia Legislature, which body received them with due respect and took a recess of a few minutes. (Long Grabs was in the party too, but by some strange blunder the Speaker omitted any allusion to him!) Gen. Hill is a small but good looking man, and is about 35 years of age, and graduated No. 15 in a class with Burnside, who was No. 18. He has a keen eye, well formed forehead and full long whiskers like most other military men. He is very pleasant and affable, though apparently silent and reserved, and shows in every movement courtesy and sincerity. Strange to say he and old "Stonewall" do not agree very well. This has probably resulted from some accidental difference or prejudice, and each has a spirit too independent to condescend voluntarily to remove the misunderstanding. Of Gen. Stuart I have already given you some account.

In the lower house of the Confederate Congress the man who makes the most fuss and show, next to the Speaker and reading Clerk, is Henry S. Foote of Tenn. Although he has "played out" several times, he has again turned up anew and is one of the most fluent talkers I ever heard, not even excepting Venable and his Western rival. There is an old "legend" that once upon a time a bet was made in Washington that Venable was the greatest talker in Congress. It was immediately taken up by the friends of a celebrated Western campaigner, and arrangements were made for the "match," and whichever battery would be silenced first should lose and not be considered "game." They "set to" after dinner and at bed time neither had much advantage of the other, when the spectators all retired leaving the combatants alone. Next day after breakfast the judges went in to note the stage of the race, when they found the Western man exhausted and swooned away, his head on the back of his chair and his arms hanging by his side, while Venable had closed in upon his antagonist with his mouth close to the unfortunate man's ear, stating argument after argument and illustration on illustration, while his right forefinger vibrated up and down upon his open left palm, keeping time with the ceaseless roll of his tongue. But I believe Foote could have worn both out in detail. Mr. Foote is a remarkable man and was once described in the old Congress as a "great humbug, pertect gentleman, entire horse, and part alligator." He was born in 1800, in Fauquier Co., Va., educated at Washington College, a Presbyterian Institution at Lexington, Va., studied Law, and settled in Alabama in 1824 and in Mississippi in 1826. He was elected Governor of Mississippi in 1845 over Jefferson Davis, was Senator from Mississippi 1847 to 1853, and was chairman of the committee on Foreign Relations. He afterwards lived in California and subsequently settled in Memphis to practice Law and is now Representative from the 5th Congressional District of Tenn. He is very formal, sensitive, quick-tempered, of inferior talent and of little influence and consideration among the other members. Among the most leading and prepossessing members of the House are Speaker Bocock of Va., W. P. Miles of S. C., Chilton of Ala., Barksdale of Miss., Smith of N. C., Jones of Tenn., and Perkins of La. Thos S. Bocock, Speaker of the House, and who would in certain contingencies have to perform the duties of President, was born in Buckingham county, Va., and is some 40 or 45 years of age. He was a poor boy, was educated by friends and is a self-made man. Mr. Bocock is a man of superior talent, pleasant manner, and dispatches business with great energy, promptness and ability. He served a few terms in Congress at Washington and was once nominated and supported for Speaker on some of the ballotings previous to the election of Pennington of N. J. William Porcher Miles is also a self-made man and was raised in Charleston, educated at the Charleston College, and was for some years Professor in that Institution. He was elected to some local city office and immediately afterwards elected to the U. S. Congress in place of Mr. Aiken. He is rather under medium size, some 35 years of age or more, with mild but solid and profound expression of countenance, dark complexion and long brown beard. He has a kind of acquired foreign accent, speaks well and pleasantly, is very neat and is one of the most courteous and accomplished gentleman I ever saw. Mr. Miles is a man of talent, great energy and industry, has many warm admirers and will make his mark in the future of our Confederacy. He seems to be governed by no hobby nor selfish ambition, but gives his best energies on all occasions to the advancement of our cause and sustaining the government in efficiency and purity. He never assails the motives of his fellow members, and cheerfully yields his measures when theirs are more available. Although he has his faults, as all others, it affords confidence and satisfaction to know that we have such men in our councils while we have a Lee and a Jackson in the field.

In the Senate one's attention is first attracted to Hon. R. M. T. Hunter, Senator from Va., and at present performing the duties of President of the Senate in Mr. Stephens's absence. Mr. Hunter (or Run-Mad-Tom as he was called by his *confreres* at Washington) is 45 or 50 years of age, was born in Essex county, Va., and educated at the University of Virginia. He became a lawyer and was several times member of the Va. Legislature, and was elected to Coygress in 1837 and once or twice afterwards, and officiated as Speaker one term. In 1847 he was sent to the U. S. Senate and was continued there till Virginia seceded. He is a large, indolent looking man, weighs over 200, and makes an efficient presiding officer. When he rises to put a question or decide a point of parliamentary usage, he talks very loud and fast, seeming in a great hurry to get through so that he can sit down again. He is a man of good order of talent, sound judgment and strong intellect, but not thought to possess superior original powers of mind or versatile genius. Prominent in the Senate are Hill of Ga., Yancey and Clay of Ala., Phelan of Miss., Johnson of Ga., Semmes of La., Davis of N. C. and Burnett of Ky.

"Yours till deth," LONG GRABS.

RICHMOND, Feb'y 20th.

Messrs. Editors: Yesterday I thought I would avoid poor fare and high charges and take dinner at a restaurant, one of the "crack" places. After a long time I succeeded in getting one of the servants to notice me and I ordered some steak, sausage, eggs and a cup of coffee. I could have eaten twice as much as was brought, but my purse admonished forbearance. I asked the consequential individual behind the counter what was my bill. "Three dollars and seventy-five cents," replied my hospitable friend. I came, I forked over, I left. City regulations control charges of hack drivers and draymen and should be enforced against other petty extortioners.

The army is on the move or rather on the scatter some way, but nobody knows anything about it. President Davis and Gen. Lee, when questioned on the matter, always express entire ignorance of the whole affair. Gen. Lee keeps a secret well, but I cannot says as to old Jeff.

There are more romantic and historical reminisences connected with Richmond than a man could study in a year; and it would be impossible to relate many of them only when appropriate to the subject matter. The old building—St. John's church—in which Patrick Henry delivered his celebrated speech of "give me liberty or give me death," to the Virginia Legislature, still stands in the lower part of the city. There are some old tomb stones pointing away back to the time of John Smith and Pocahontas, and many old buildings reared by the hands of the old colonial fathers. But Richmond has not much extraordinary history—*that* is reserved for the future. What the present bloody page, that is being added to the annals of the world, may relate of Richmond, cannot now be known; but it has already awarded it a fame co-extensive with that of Troy.

I regret that the N. C. Legislature made no provision to raise a reserve force for the defence of the State. Any direct or intentional conflict with the general government in the proper exercise of its duties, would, of course, be deprecated, and should not be encouraged; but proper and satisfactory arrangements for such a force could have been made without leading necessarily to such consequences.

There should always be, if possible, a force near the enemy when there is a large wealthy district exposed, in order to save as much property and provisions as we could, to protect our people, and to keep the enemy within his limits. The condition of North Carolina and Louisiana has been very different from any other States. There was no threatening demonstration on the part of the enemy against either of these States after large portions of their most valuable territory had been occupied, and the Confederate forces were concentrated at other points where more good could be done in the same time. Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas were more overrun than any other sections, but all that could be done any how was done by Confederate forces in their vicinity, and there could not be much use for State forces if they had raised them. But Eastern Carolina and Central Louisiana have been left at the mercy of squads of yankees and bands of negroes and buffalos. Is it not perfectly plain that a few thousand armed men stationed at the crossings among the swamps and rivers of those sections would effectually check these bands of marauders and murderers? What would be the paltry expense of maintaining this organization in comparison to the loss of millions and millions worth of property, negroes, horses and provisions, that might have been removed and saved by the aid of this force? Louisiana was hardly able to bring out this force after the heart of the State was laid open to the enemy, but North Carolina was able and is still abundantly able and there is time enough yet to do much good, though the lost opportunities can never be recovered nor remedied.

I have recently mingled with officers and men in nearly all the N. C. regiments in Va. and I find the almost universal sentiment against the Ten Regiment Bill recently under consideration in the Legislature. Many however had not been properly informed of the real merits and provisions of the Bill. I am satisfied this is the sentiment generally entertained in the army, for I made it an object on every occasion to ascertain the feeling on the subject and had every opportunity to do so.

The Opening Address, a poem by Henry Timrod of Charleston, was delivered in the New Theatre last night for the third time. I regard it as an ordinary production, really evincing no very high poetic conception. It is void of inspiring or rapturous thought. Performance last night rather badly rendered.

Truly, LONG GRABS.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

At a regular meeting of Deep River Lodge, No. 164, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas: It has pleased the All-wise Creator of the Universe to remove from our midst our beloved brethren George R. Smith, William S. Marly, Edwin M. Whitehead and R. W. Stinson, and whereas we appreciate their sterling worth and deeply deplore their loss. Therefore,

Resolved, That while we bow with humble submission to the will of Him who doeth all things well, yet we cannot refrain from expressing our deep and heartfelt sorrow at the sad event which has deprived their families and friends of a beloved associate, this Lodge of worthy members, and our country of three valuable soldiers, who were ever ready to meet the enemies of our beloved country.

Resolved, That while we would not intrude upon their grief, yet we desire to tender our most heartfelt sympathies to their bereaved families and relatives on account of their loss.

Resolved, That in testimony of our high regard of the deceased, and as an act of remembrance we wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to their respective families, and also to the Fayetteville Observer for publication.

H. M. FOUST,
G. W. DORSETT,
B. Y. CRAVEN,
D. H. HOWARD,
J. S. BRAY,
} Com.

Feb'y 13, 1863. 1tpd

State Journal please copy.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

SMALL POX.

Small pox in the infected districts of Cumberland county has been arrested amongst the white population and the patients have returned to their respective homes. There have been 64 deaths—6 by virulent confluent small pox. All the patients on Harrington Hill, Fayetteville, have convalesced and been discharged, numbering 6, one confluent and 5 distinct. In Hospital for the blacks at T. H. Massey's old residence there are 5 cases of small pox—1 confluent and 4 distinct, and 8 other colored persons who have been exposed to the infection.

The upper portion of Bladen county has thrown off the infection by the modus operandi of *vis medicatrix naturæ* in a great measure. But very few received the benefit of Medical attention or public sympathy, at any rate until the infection had run its course. Some 38 persons fell victims to this loathsome disease, and some 160 convalesced. I give this information to the inquiring public in order to save them so much trouble in asking me so much concerning the small pox.

All who have not been protected by vaccination should be vaccinated immediately, and you need not fear the consequences of small pox. It is certain and emphatically a preventive against confluent small pox.

K. A. B., M. D.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Persons who write letters on their own business and expect a reply, should by all means enclose a stamp to pay return postage; otherwise they may either fail to receive an answer or must tax the person written to with paper, envelope and postage, to say nothing of time. I have heard of a person subjecting himself to a long, expensive, and useless journey in consequence of omitting this small matter. If he had sent a stamp he would have had a reply which would have shown him the uselessness of such a journey. Q.

State of North Carolina,

RICHMOND COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Jan'y Term, 1863.

Jas. A. Covington, Adm'r of Jno. P. Covington, dec'd,
vs.
Eliza J. Covington, et. al.
Petition for Settlement.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that the Defendant, Eliza J. Covington, is a non-resident of this State: It is ordered by the Court that publication be made in the Fayetteville Observer for six weeks successively, notifying the said Defendant of the filing of this petition, and that unless she appear at the next Term of this Court and answer the petition, the same will be taken pro confesso and heard ex parte as to her.

Witness, Louis H. Webb, Clerk of our said Court, at Office in Rockingham, the 3d Monday in Jan'y 1863.

1*6tpd] L. H. WEBB, C. C. C.

W. H. ALLEN,
Commission Merchant,
WILMINGTON, N. C.

PROMPT personal attention given to consignments of NAVAL STORES, COTTON, or other Country Produce for sale or shipment.

April 22. 11-1m*tf

REMARKABLE SERMON FROM BISHOP CLARKE, OF RHODE ISLAND.

The Hartford Times says: As an evidence of the change of tone in such political sermons as are now preached, we present the following extract from a sermon, delivered by Bishop Clark, in Grace Church, Providence, before an immense congregation. It is a fervent prayer for peace. One year ago the Bishop, like many others who forgot their calling, were as fervent for war. Similar clerical changes of feeling in regard to the war are observed hereabouts.

Bishop Clark's text was from Lamentations, v. 16. "The crown has fallen from our head. Woe unto us, for we have sinned!" After a reference to the sad picture of reverses which the prophet describes in the book of Lamentations, the Bishop proceeded to show the application of his language to the condition of our country:

"We have fallen upon evil days, and the heart of the nation beats with agony. I do not wish to say a word that shall deepen the gloom—we must look the facts in the face; we must be willing to see where we stand, and what dangers threaten us. The crown of prosperity has fallen from our heads. There is no suspension in the operations of business. There are many who are making money as they never did before. By a single turn of the wheel, some find themselves rich who were poor yesterday. There could never be a better time for shrewd and daring speculation.

"Money is a drug; and when a man has made his half a million, he does not know what to do with it; for the facts that there is no paper which may not be rais s in a year, no stock which may not have a stand still. Nothing is safe but gold and land; and the former can be had only at ruinous rates, and the latter may yield no income. We have a sort of hectic prosperity, but the vital organs are diseased. We have an abundant currency—an over abundant currency—because it is fictitious, a "promise to pay," which everybody knows is a lie. The show of prosperity that we have cannot last long. We are blowing the bubble larger and larger every day, and it grows thinner as it expands. It glistens gloriously in the sunshine for a moment, but it will burst suddenly and vanish into space. We have ceased to accumulate the true material of prosperity, producing and manufacturing abundantly. Every one knows that soon the supply will be much larger than the demand, and are speculating upon the impending calamity.

"This is not the worst. The temptations to fraud are irresistable, and so many men of whom we had expected better things, are yielding to the temptation. The most discouraging thing in the present alarming crisis is the fact that so many loyal citizens are improving the opportunity to amass enormous profits by fraudulent speculations upon the miseries of the country. I have seen the results of this at Washington in forms that make men's blood curdle with indignation. I have seen sick and dying men in our hospitals furnished with supplies for which the contractors were paid a generous price, and the poor creatures turned away with loathing from the nauseous substance laid upon their hot and fevered lips.

"Again, we have sinned as a nation, in the persons of our representatives and rulers. Is it the wise forethought and sober judgment and deliberate wisdom of the community which determines who shall be our rulers? How are they nomited? How are they elected? How do they conduct themselves after they are elected? Do they never take bribes? Do they represent the country, or the party which elects them? Do they decide every question by its merits? Are they always sober, temperate, chaste, free from all obscenity, and profaneness? Do they always utter their honest convictions? Whenever a measure is proposed for action, do they ask, "Is it wise and right?" Alas! the crown of glory is fallen from our head and there is no hope for the country until the people arise in their might and say, "We will no longer have profligates and fools to rule over us."

I think the world have found out clearly enough we are weak. We are not weak in numbers or resources, but we are weak in that efficient action which comes of faith, earnestness, self-denial and unity of purpose. We have made many awful sacrifices to no purpose.

* * * * "Blow from the South, O winds of God, and carry back the message of fraternity and peace! Scatter the darkness, roll away the clouds and give unto us once more the sun-shine of tranquil rest! Under the shadow of thy wings we make our refuge: O God, give us peace."

ANTIOCH ACADEMY,

ROBESON COUNTY, N. C.

I WILL open a School in the above Academy on Monday Feb'y 16th. The situation is healthy and in a pleasant neighborhood. Board can be had in the neighborhood on reasonable terms.

Tuition per session of five months $8, $12 and $15.

For further particulars address Principal at Randalsville, N. C. WM. J. STUART, Principal.

Feb'y 11, 1863. 4*4wpd

FOR SALE.

I OFFER for sale my HOUSE and LOT in Summerville, Harnett county. The House contains 8 large rooms, with fire places in each. The Lot contains 3 acres with all necessary out houses.

ELIZABETH BAILEY.

Feb. 17. 4*8tpd

VALUABLE LANDS and MILLS FOR SALE.

THE subscriber offers for sale his LANDS lying on Fish creek in Harnett county, N. C., and extending to the Cape Fear River, in all, about fifteen hundred acres.

On the premises is a very comfortable Dwelling House, and all necessary out houses; also, a first rate GRIST MILL, and a number one CIRCULAR SAW MILL, capable of cutting from three to five thousand feet of Lumber per day. Both mills are run by an over-shot wheel. The stream is never failing, affording sufficient water to run the Mills. The Grist Mill now tolls from 10 to 12 bushels of corn per week. It is a good location for a Flouring Mill; and the frame for one is now up, and most of the material for the machinery on the spot and ready to be put together. There is, also, a Store House on the premises, and for a purchaser wishing to sell goods it is a good stand.

The healthfulness of the place is unsurpassed, and it is noted for excellent water.

There are about 300 acres of good farming land lying on each side of Fish creek, of which about 50 acres are under cultivation. Growth, dogwood, hickory, oak and short leaved pine. The balance of the land is heavily timbered with long leaved pines, convenient to the mill.

Said lands are 4 miles from Summerville, at which place there is a first rate Classical School, and about 6 miles from Lillington, the county site. It is not amiss to add, that gold has been discovered at different points on the lands described, and that the indications are most favorable. Reference may be made to Jno. W. Howard, Topsail Sound, Jas. A. Bethea, A. B. Horton, or the subscriber at Summerville.

S. W. DOUGLAS.

Feb'y 18, 1863. 5*5tpd

State of North Carolina,

MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Jan'y Term, 1863.

A. H. Sanders, Adm'r, *vs.* Thomas J. Parnell, Amos Parnell and others.
Petition to make Real Estate Assets.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that Henry T. Parnell, one of the Defendants in this cause, resides beyond the limits of this State: It is therefore on motion ordered by the Court, that publication be made in the Fayetteville Observer, notifying the said Defendant of the filing of this petition, and that unless he appears at the next term of this Court and answers the petition, the same will be taken pro confesso and heard ex parte as to him.

Witness, J. S. Spencer, Clerk of said Court, at office in Troy, the 1st Monday in January 1863.

1*6tpd] J. S. SPENCER, C. C. C.

INTERESTING AND INSTRUCTIVE INCIDENT.

Correspondence of the Chicago Times.

HELENA, Jan'y 18.—Since the 1st of January the children of Ham are having a hard time of it. They are free with no one to care for them, nothing to live on, half clothed and worse fed. God only knows what will become of the poor creatures.

On Thursday afternoon the following actual event took place:

J. B. Pillow, brother of the rebel General, who has a beautiful plantation a few miles from Helena, and who was worth half a million of dollars previous to the war, came into camp through the lines, with 183 negroes, of both sexes and of all ages. At the head of his servants, who followed in single file, he walked to the Colonel's headquarters, where the following conversation took place:

"Colonel: here is my small charge, in the shape of free American citizens of African descent, which I deliver over to you. Here is a correct list of their names, ages, sexes and occupations. Please send them on to the President, with my compliments, and say to him that, if he wishes anything else under my roof, on my grounds, or in my pockets, all he has to do is to ask and receive."

"Mr. Pillow, I cann t receive these people; I have no food for them—have nothing for them to do—have hardly food enough for our soldiers."

"And I cannot use them, said Mr. Pillow. I had bacon to keep them, but it has been stolen. I had corn, but it has been gobbled. Now, I have nothing for them to eat, and, as Lincoln has turned this army into a nigger boarding house, you will please seat these people at your table."

"But I have no such power."

"Then give them work. If you fail to manage them, I will teach you. The art can be learned in about thirty years."

"I have nothing for them to do."

"Nor have I. You will not see them starve, I hope. I am a loyal man—have been a prosperous one, but can no longer care for these people. You have surely some use for them. Nearly all trades are here represented among the men. The women you can find use for somewhere."

"Well I can't take them."

"My God, what will they live on? Can you sell me corn and bacon? They will starve unless you do."

"No, I cannot."

"And you cannot keep them?

"No."

"Well, God only knows what will become of them."

At the head of his old servants he left, and the free people followed him back crying and wondering what next will come in their behalf. The poor creatures come into camp, steal provisions, &c., are kicked and cuffed about by all hands, and at times most unmercifully pounded by some soldier who will not stand their "sass." The only idea ninety-five of every hundred of slaves have of freedom, is ease, freedom from labor, theft and lust.

Lo the Poor African.—The Mississippian says: A gentleman from Holly Springs, Miss., says that over one thousand negroes that had been carried off by the Yankee troops, have run away from the Yankees and returned to their homes and masters. They represent that their treatment by the Yankees was horrible. They were badly clothed, worse fed, worked hard, and suffered greatly from exposure to cold. They say if this is Yankee freedom they do not want any of it.

Hunter at Port Royal has ordered a general conscription of the negro captives and runaways in his district, which extends from Port Royal to Florida, with a view of placing the unlucky darkeys in the front of battle to shield his Yankee troops from the Confederate bullets. Sambo is getting hard usage from his Yankee taskmaster.—*Savannah Sun.*

BY THE GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, it has been made to appear to me that the terms of the Proclamation issued by me on the 26th ultimo, for the benefit of those members of our army who are absent from their colors without proper leave, may not have been known to all who might have desired to avail themselves of its merciful provisions in time for them to do so.

Now therefore I, ZEBULON B. VANCE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do issue this second Proclamation, extending the time limited in the former to the 5th day of March next. All such persons as above referred to, who shall have reported to their several camps by that day, will suffer no punishment for their past delinquencies. To those who shall not have so reported, nothing can be promised except the severest penalties of the military law.

In witness whereof, I, ZEBULON B. VANCE, L. S. Governor, Captain General and Commander-in-Chief, have signed these presents and caused the great Seal of the State to be affixed.

Done at our City of Raleigh, this 12th day of Feb'y A. D., 1863, and in the 87th year of our Independence.

By order of the Governor, Z. B. VANCE.

R. H. BATTLE, Jr., Private Secretary.

Feb'y 13. 8*3t

STRAYED,

FROM the subscriber in November last, seven head of SHEEP, all black and all Ewes, bearing the mark of swallow-fork in the right ear and a crop off and half moon in the left. I bought the Sheep from Launcelot Jones, in Sampson county, and I think they are trying to get back. Four of them, when heard from last, were in Johnston county, near John Harper's, on the Fayetteville road; the other three were in the edge of Sampson county, near Theop's. Sutton's, on the Clinton road. Any information respecting them will be thankfully received, and the person stopping them will be paid for trouble.

W. C. GODWIN.

Newton Grove, N. C., Feb. 12, 1863. 3*4tpd

460 ACRES LAND FOR SALE.

THE undersigned offers his PLANTATION for sale, situated on the west side of Cape Fear River, 18 miles below Fayetteville. On the above premises there is a comfortable Dwelling, all necessary out-buildings, a good Store and Ware-house, and is an excellent stand for a country merchant. There is a fine young apple and peach Orchard and a good scuppernong Vineyard. There is about 200 acres of River and Swamp Land, of which about 100 is in cultivation, and produces finely. There is also about 50 acres of up-land cleared, with clay subsoil, and produces well. There is a public Ferry on the River, which is profitable and adds a great deal to the convenience of the owner.

I will take pleasure in showing these lands to any one who desires to purchase. Persons wishing any further information, will address me at Gray's Creek P. O., Cumberland Co., N. C.

THOS. W. DEVANE.

Feb. 16. 5*4tpd

$50 REWARD.

RANAWAY from the subscriber, on last Saturday night, my negro Man, ARNOLD, aged 20 or 25 years, dark copper color, common size, about 5 feet 7 or 10 inches high, formerly the property of D. L. Perkins, of Black Mingo, S. C., bought by me at Salisbury, N. C., on 1st January last. I am inclined to think said boy will endeavor to get to the Yankees, having been raised, I think, somewhere in Eastern North Carolina, perhaps Washington, or the said Perkins, I think, was formerly from Eastern North Carolina. Said boy worked, or was hired a part of last year, to Arnold & Cooley, Wadesboro', N. C. I will give the above reward for his confinement so that I get him again.

Runaway, also with said boy, a negro Man, ELLICK, 25 or 30, black and stout built, 180 or 190 pounds weight, the property of John Spencer, or the widow Spencer, of Anson county, N. C. Said negroes may be in company.

Address, Norwood's, Stanly Co. N. C. Spencer's address, Lillesville, Anson, North Carolina

ROWLAND HARRIS.

Feb'y 5. 3*tf

☞ Single copies of the Observer can be procured by non-subscribers, at the Publication Office 5 cents.

WAR NEWS.

A Cavalry Dash.—The Rockingham Register of the 19th, says:

Capt. John H. McNeill has again been making a successful dash at a Yankee train. He caught one of their trains about seven miles south of Romney, on the Northwestern Turnpike, at the junction of the road leading to Moorfield, on Monday last, and took 104 horses, with splendid harness, and destroyed 27 wagons loaded with hay. Not content with taking the horses and harness and destroying the 27 splendid Yankee wagons with their forage, he took 71 of the Yankees themselves, with two negroes in their possession, which they had stolen from some farmer. McNeill made the dash at the train with only 27 men, whilst it had a guard of 150 Yankees, 135 of whom were infantry, and the balance cavalry. McNeill would have taken the whole party, but the balance took flight and ran off. This brilliant affair was bloodless, not a Confederate getting a scratch.

From the Yazoo Pass.—GRENADA, Feb. 14.—Latest advices from Yazoo Pass say the Federals have made some progress. The most reliable information puts them half way through. Scouts from above think they will be in Cold Water in a week, while citizens from below regard the obstructions as impassable. Competent engineers with a large force of laborers, are by this time at work below. New obstructions we are assured are in progress. The enemy will be sufficiently checked to enable the Commanding General to permanently check the progress of the expedition before it reaches a point where it can be seriously mischievous.

From Charleston.—CHARLESTON, Feb. 21.—Another French war steamer has appeared off the harbor this morning.

One of the Yankee gunboats displaying a flag of truce has just steamed in close to our batteries on Sullivan's Island and a boat from Fort Sumter has boarded her. The unusual act has caused much speculation concerning her object, but nothing is known in the city.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 22.—The object of the Yankee flag of truce yesterday was to bring orders from Lord Lyons to the British steamer Petrel, now here, to sail immediately to Washington. Also to bring letters for the officers captured on the gunboat Isaac Smith. The Petrel goes to-morrow, and as her purpose was to be here during the attack, many believe the attack postponed. Other indications confirm this impression. The quarrel of Hunter and Foster has caused much confusion in the enemy's arrangements. Fort Sumter to-day fired a salute in honor of Washington's birth-day.

FROM THE ALBEMARLE REGION.

EDENTON, N. C., Feb. 17, 1863.

Mr. Pennington:—It will be gratifying to you and your numerous readers to learn that the Partizan Rangers (Infantry) of Chowan county, known as the "Yellow Jackets," under Lieut. Richard Keough, have opened the campaign in that down-trodden and much oppressed county in the most brilliant manner. On Saturday, 7th inst., Lieut. Keough, with nine of his men, met 15 of the New York Mounted Riflemen about three-quarters of a mile from Edenton, in an open field, and routed them completely, killing Lieut. Fullinger, instantly, and dangerously, supposed mortally, wounding Capt. Churchill, a notorious character who had been to Richmond twice as a spy and robbed our citizens on various occasions. He was also a correspondent of the New York Times. He is confined to his bed in this town, having one buckshot in his right ear, one in the forehead and one in the neck. He professes to be sorry for his misdeeds and anxious to leave the Yankee service. The remainder of the Yankee cavalry skedaddled in their usual style, leaving the dead and wounded in the hands of our gallant men. This being the first time that this little band of patriots was ever under fire, entitles them to much credit for the noble stand made on that occasion.

On Monday after the fight, Lt. Flusser, of the steamer Com. Perry, arrived at Edenton and ordered all the male citizens of the town between the ages of 18 and 45 to assemble at the Court House for the purpose of taking the oath of allegiance to the United States or remove five miles from town, thirty one of whom did meet to consult on the propriety of doing so. After some consultation the following named persons agreed to take the oath in a modified form, viz: Rev. W. J. Norfleet, Rev. Mr. Amis, John M. Jones, Sr., William Badham, Sr., William R. Skinner, R. G. Mitchel, Joseph Scott Jones, Samuel T. Bond, Henry A. Bond, Richard Paxton, Wm. E. Bond, James Britt, James Norcom, and Daniel McDowell—fourteen. The following gentlemen much to their credit declared they would not take an oath under any circumstances. Dr. Wm. J. Leary, Wm. C. Wood, Joseph McCoy, Charles Manning, Mal. Haughton, Thos. Robinson, James Manning, Joseph Floyd, Thomas Badham, James Skinner, C. Sawyer, James McCoy, William Haughton, M. Rogerson, William McCoy, Jos. Ellis, and one whose name is not remembered. The remainder of the citizens were absent from town or would not attend.

On Tuesday Lt. Flusser having ascertained that Lt. Keough had been regularly commissioned by Gov. Vance, did not carry out his threat, stating that they had as much right to fight and kill as he had, and viewed them as carrying on an honorable warfare.

The Yankees when about to leave the town arrested and carried off with them Mr. Edward Wood, on account of his strong Southern principles, supposed to be done at the instance of a noted Buffalo, Jack Glover, and another Buffalo who was with them throughout the day, and who took passage with them with his ill gotten gains for Newbern.—*Ral. Progress.*

The Vandals at Williamston again.—The State Journal has a letter from Williamston, Martin county, N. C., detailing the incidents of the sixth visit of the yankees to that place, which occurred on the 13th inst:—

"A single gunboat carrying two cannon and two companies, one of marines and the other of "Buffaloes," reached our wharf at 5. P. M. and left about half past 6. Their object, and they thoroughly accomplished it, was the destruction of Col. Lamb's Hotel and premises; his family had moved into Edgecombe about the first of the year. They pulled down the funnel of the chimneys with ropes, and perforated the remainder with holes 8 or 10 inches in diameter; broke all the windows, and cut to pieces the sash and doors; demolished the walls and ceiling in numerous places, particularly almost turning the hall sitting room into the piazza; tore down the posts of the latter; broke some of the furniture and cooking utensils to pieces, and carried the residue away; scattered books, phamphlets and papers over the yard and street; treated a long range of extra rooms and the other out-houses in the same manner as the principal building, and cut the walling down and into fragments. While engaged in this *bold* and *refined* piece of business, some of their companies kept diligent watch down the road where a handful of our cavalry pickets had just disappeared, and others entered a dwelling, which had been vacated by the frightened family a few moments before, and sacked it of everything portable and valuable, such as plates, knives and forks, window-curtains, stools and chairs, &c. Ah! the depth of Federal degradation, and the the inexpressible pusillanimity of such a *cowardly* revenge! To wreak the entirety of their vengeance upon the defenceless and unoffending *personal estate* of a noble and dashing Confederate leader, who had fairly attacked them in their military barracks, while they *dare* not venture near the emcampment of his gallant followers."

Important from Richmond.—The question of the "Northwest" engages a large share of attention in high quarters at the seat of Government. It is believed that overtures have been made by leading men of both parties of the States named, accompanied by assurances that if they could be received into the Southern league their troops would be recalled and the war stopped in twenty four hours. The proposition, it is further said, has many friends among public men in Richmond, and is the subject of debate in secret session of Congress. The army of Gen. Lee is said to be decidedly in favor of the measure, as the price of peace and of vengeance on the Yankees.

These statements come to the Mobile Register from a most reliable source, and we give them at their value, for the information of our readers. *Charleston Courier.*

Arrival of a Prize.—A private dispatch from Wilmington to Mr. Power, owner of the Privateer Retribution, received in this city Saturday afternoon, says that a prize schooner taken by the Retribution, and loaded with fish, salt, &c., had been run aground in New Inlet, under the guns of Fort Fisher.—*Charleston Courier.*

General Smith's Successor.—RICHMOND, Feb. 24.—We learn from reliable authority, that Gen. Longstreet has been appointed by the President to the military department made vacant by the resignation of Gen. G. W. Smith. This department includes South Virginia and North Carolina and embraces all the operations South of the Army of Northwestern Virginia commanded by Gen. Lee. Gen. Longstreet's headquarters will be at Petersburg.—*Examiner.*

Gen. N. G. Evans.—We learn from private sources that the Court of Inquiry recently held in the case of this officer, has rendered a verdict of not guilty of the charges brought against him, and that his character as an officer and a gentleman has been triumphantly vindicated. *Charleston Courier.*

Incidents of the War.—A touching romance in real life is afforded by the deaths of Captain Chalmers Glenn, of Rockingham county, N. C., and his faithful servant, Mat. Reared together from childhood, Mat had shared in all the boyish pranks and frolics of his master, and, in later life, had been his constant attendant and faithful servant. On the morning of the battle of Boonesboro', Captain Glenn called Mat to him and said: "Mat, I will be killed in this battle; see me buried; then, go home, and be to your mistress and my children all you have ever been to me." From behind a rock the faithful fellow watched all day the form of his beloved master, as the tide of battle ebbed and flowed over that eventful field. At last he missed him, and, rushing forward, found the prediction too truly verified—life was already extinct. Assisted by two members of his company, a grave was dug with bayonets, and soon the cold and silent earth held all that was dearest in life to Mat. Slowly and sadly he turned his face homeward, and there delivered all the messages and valuables with which his master had entrusted him. From that time it seemed as if his mission on earth was accomplished. Though constantly attending his master's children, and promptly obedient to the slightest word of his mistress, he visibly declined. Finally he was taken sick, and, despite the best medical attention and the kindest nursing, he died February 4, 1863. What a striking instance of the power of affection in the negro heart, and the strength and beauty of the tie between a kind master and a faithful servant! Peace to Mat's ashes! May the unholy tread of a "negro-worshipper" never pollute the last resting place of his gallant master or his faithful self.—*Richmond Whig.*

Important Decision.—In the Hustings Court, Richmond, Va., Judge Lyons has decided a case of habeas corpus by discharging the man, who was arrested under Martial Law for selling liquor. After argument by able Counsel the Court held that the power to declare Martial law under the Constitution and laws of the Confederacy did not belong to the President, and that Congress had no authority to confer such power upon him; that the authority to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus* did not carry with it the right to declare Martial law; that Martial law was an arbitrary and dictatorial power, which might be exercised by a Commander-in-Chief over his camp or elsewhere at his peril, and that neither the Constitution or the laws sanctioned or justified such a stretch of power; that the Congress might indemnify the Commander-in-Chief for powers thus unlawfully assumed, but the Courts could neither recognize or sanction it; that our Government was one of Constitution and laws as well in time of war as in time of peace; that the Constitution limited and defined the powers of the President and the Congress, and that no power belonged to either which was not expressly conferred by that instrument. The courts-martial have no right to try a citizen not connected with the army, who was under the Constitution entitled to trial by jury for every offence against the laws, and therefore the custody in which the petitioner was held was illegal.

[Where is the Richmond Enquirer, that it has not taken alarm at this "conflict between the Confederate and State authorities"? Is that paper silent because this decision is made in Virginia, and not in North Carolina? We expected to see the Enquirer denounce the decision as a "plot" and "conspiracy" to overthrow the Confederate Government.—OBSERVER.]

A Good Example.—An esteemed friend writes us from Stanly County, that Mr. Alexander Misenhimer and Brother, who own mills in that County, and have a good supply of wheat on hand, are grinding it up and selling it to soldiers' wives at ten dollars per barrel, when they could get thirty-two dollars for all they can grind within sixteen miles of their mill. This is *practical patriotism.* Honored be Alexander Misenhimer and his Brother, and their children and children's children! The poor soldiers whose wives and little ones they are supplying with bread, will hear of this and bless them. And when the battle is joined again, as joined it must be, they will strike with a steadier arm and a stouter heart, for they will feel that they have some friends who remember them, and who are caring for their families while they are risking every thing for their country.—*Raleigh Standard.*

Fire.—RALEIGH Feb. 24.—About 2 o'clock this morning a fire broke out in the kitchen of Mr. Lynn Adams. The kitchen, smokehouse and dwelling are consumed, with some 1,600 pounds of pork, kitchen furniture, &c. The furniture in the dwelling was saved, also a lot of cotton stored in the yard. The fire communicated to the dwelling of Mr. William Lougee, which with his outhouses and a portion of his pork was entirely consumed.

Mr. Adams's loss is some $6,000; no insurance. Mr. Lougee's loss is about $5,000; partially insured.—*Progress.*

The steamer Eagle and Douro, also schr. St. George, have reached Wilmington, N. C., from Nassau.—*Charleston Courier.*